伊藤潤二の猫日記
ITO JUNJI'S CAT DIARY
よん&むー

伊藤潤二

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よん&むー

ワイドKC
664

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Itoh Junji's profile

1963: Horror manga author, born in Gifu Prefecture.
1987: Debut in Monthly Halloween. Previously worked as dental technician.
1990: Started working full-time as manga author. Famous works are "Tomie", "Souichi Series", "Shibito no Koiwazurai", "Uzumaki", and many more.

The representative of Japanese horror comics, Itoh Junji = horror manga author!!
J, a dog person, was convinced into adopting two cats by his fiancée Ako:
Muu, a foreign cat, and
Yon, who has an accursed face.
Much to the chagrin of J, the cats won't get attached to him...Hang in there, J!

The difference between fear and comedy is paper-thin.
Here's a cat comedy from a horror manga author!!!

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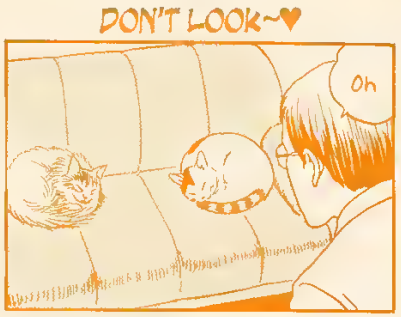

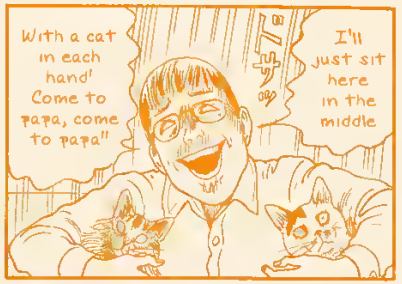

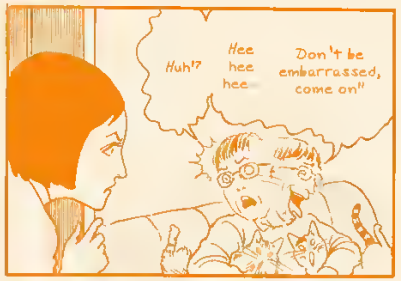

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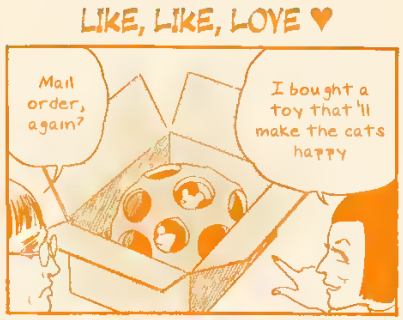

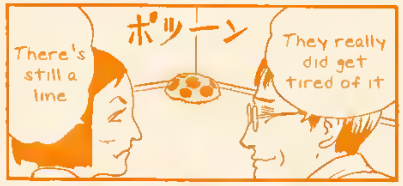

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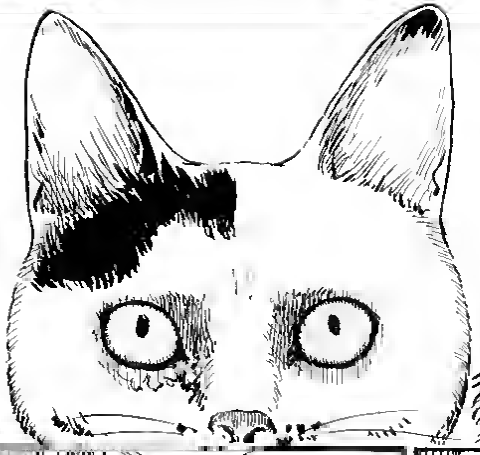
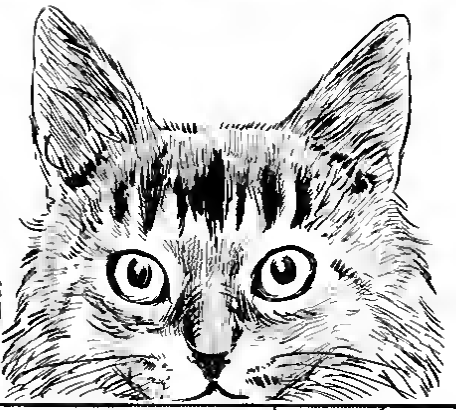
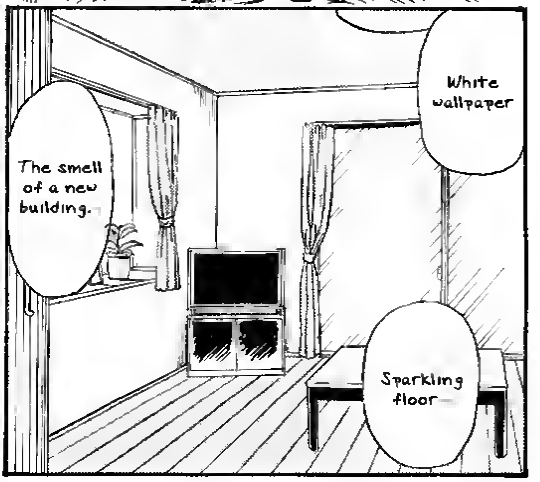
Chapter 1 Muu shows up



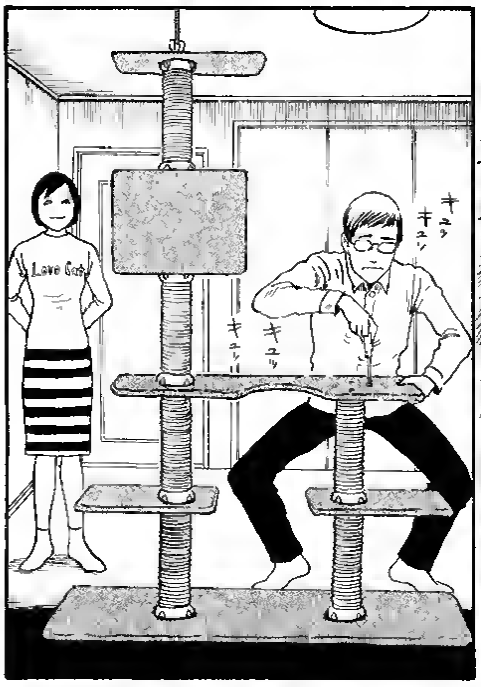




Are you a dog person?
Or a cat person?
J-kun
What is it, A-ko?
I like dogs,
but I'm really a cat person
What is it all of a sudden.. Hehe, let's see ..I don't know which one..
I might be a hamster person ...
ファファ
...I'm really a dog person
That's because dog is man's best friend.. The courage of dogs move me to tears...
Lalala..
.....

What?
Start building it
Hey, J-kun, the cat tower is here
Express delivery ---
Yon...
...
What are you talking about? I told you that I'm going to bring "Yon" from my parents' house in Chiba
Love Cat
Why would you buy something like this?
Ca... Cat tower?
...Yon... ...That's right... When I went to A-ko's parents' house for the first time months ago..
"Yon" was there...

Someone called him..
the cat with an accursed face...

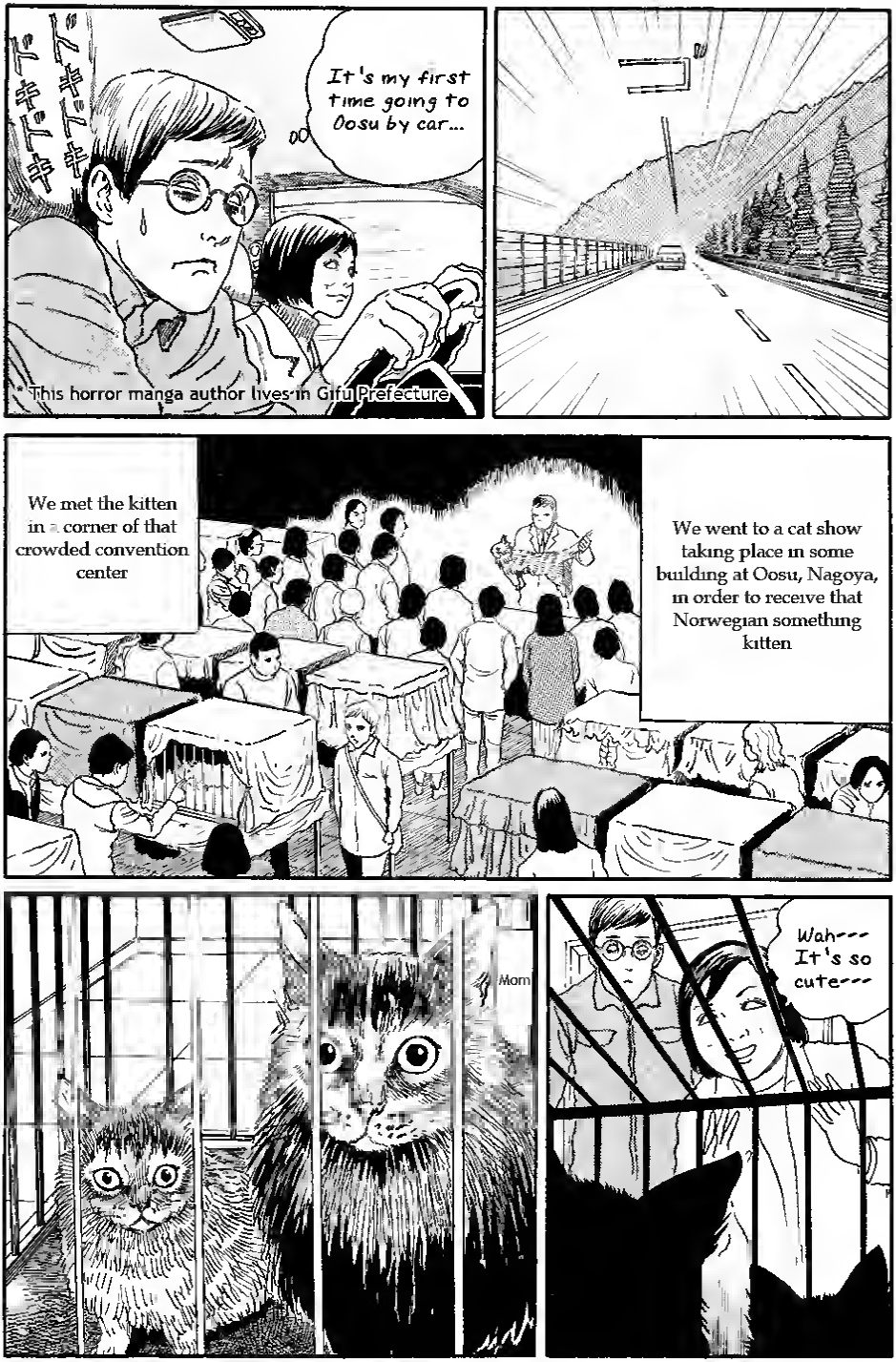

I Love Cats
キュッ
キュッ
キュッ
キュッ

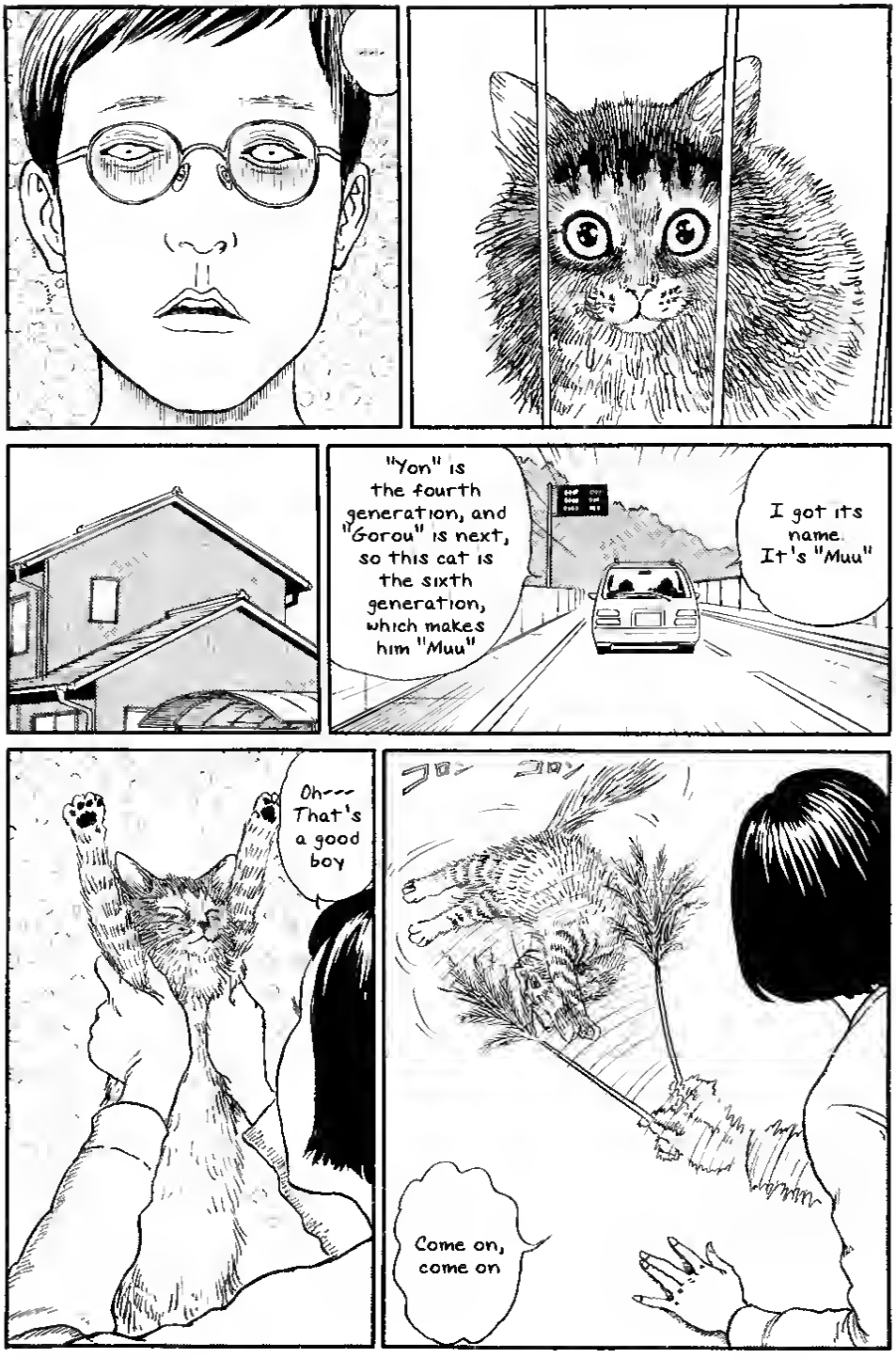
I WON'T ACCEPT THIS

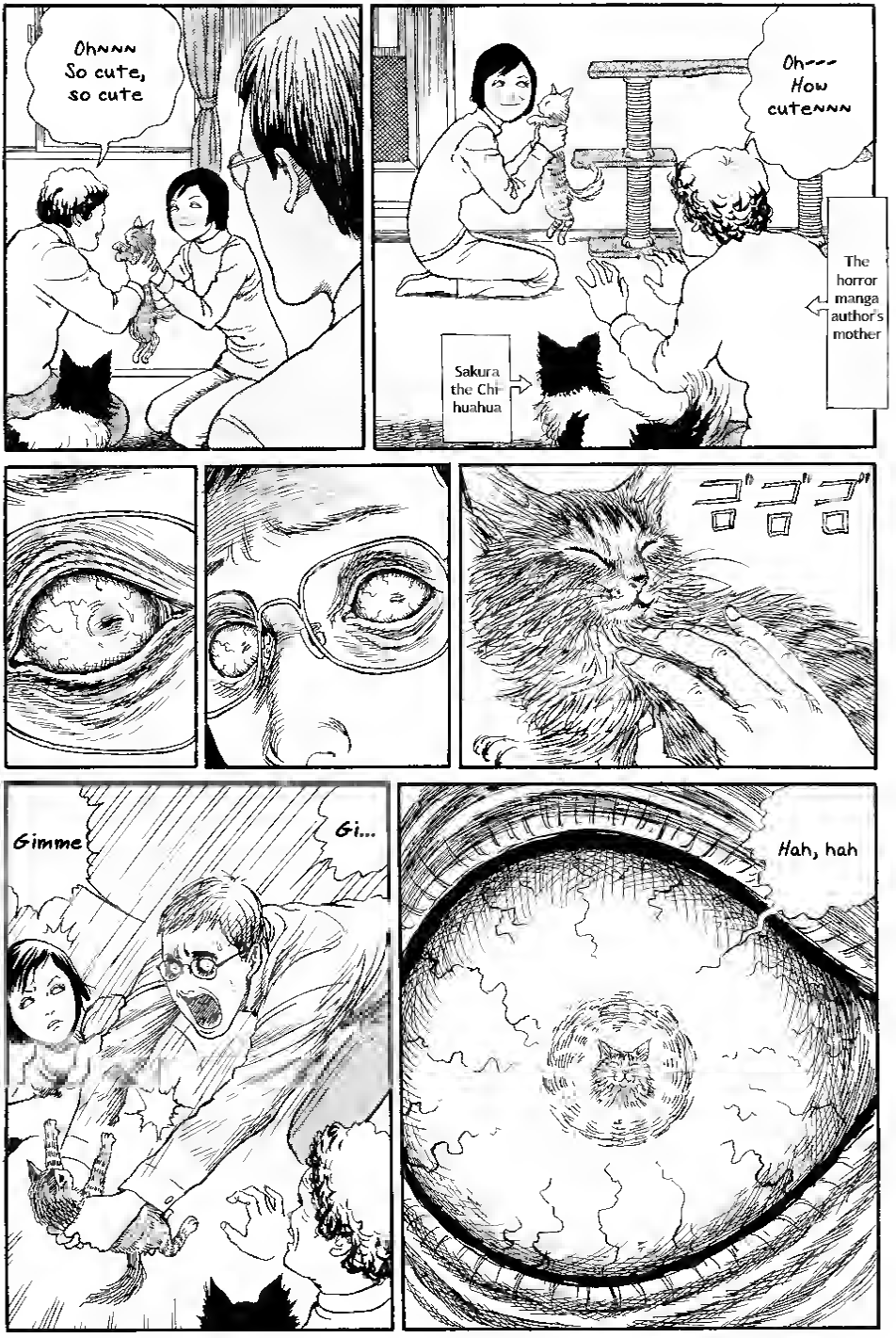
You say that that cursed cat...
will come to this house!?
I won't accept this.. I won't accept this

We can't have the cat scratching the walls, so I bought a scratch protection film
Help me stick them onto the walls
Scratch-proof Cover
What is it, A-ko...
J-kun
I WON'T ACCEPT THIS!!
I won't accept this... I won't accept this...
ピピ
My new house's brand new walls are being invaded by these gleaming sheets...
Ahh...
So we're attaching them with pins..
It has double-sided tape on the back, but we'd be in trouble if it tears down the wallpaper with it when we take it off..

J-kun
What is it this time?
ふう
Now...I just have to wait for the arrival of the cursed cat "Yon"
I think that "Yon" would be lonely all by himself
If there was one more cat, then they could play together
It's a "Norwegian forest cat"
Hey, look at this. My friend showed me this cute kitty that hasn't been sold yet
You're saying that one isn't enough, so you want to adopt two...
Wh..What.. Adopting one more cat..!?
I won't accept this...
I won't accept this...
I WON'T ACCEPT THIS...

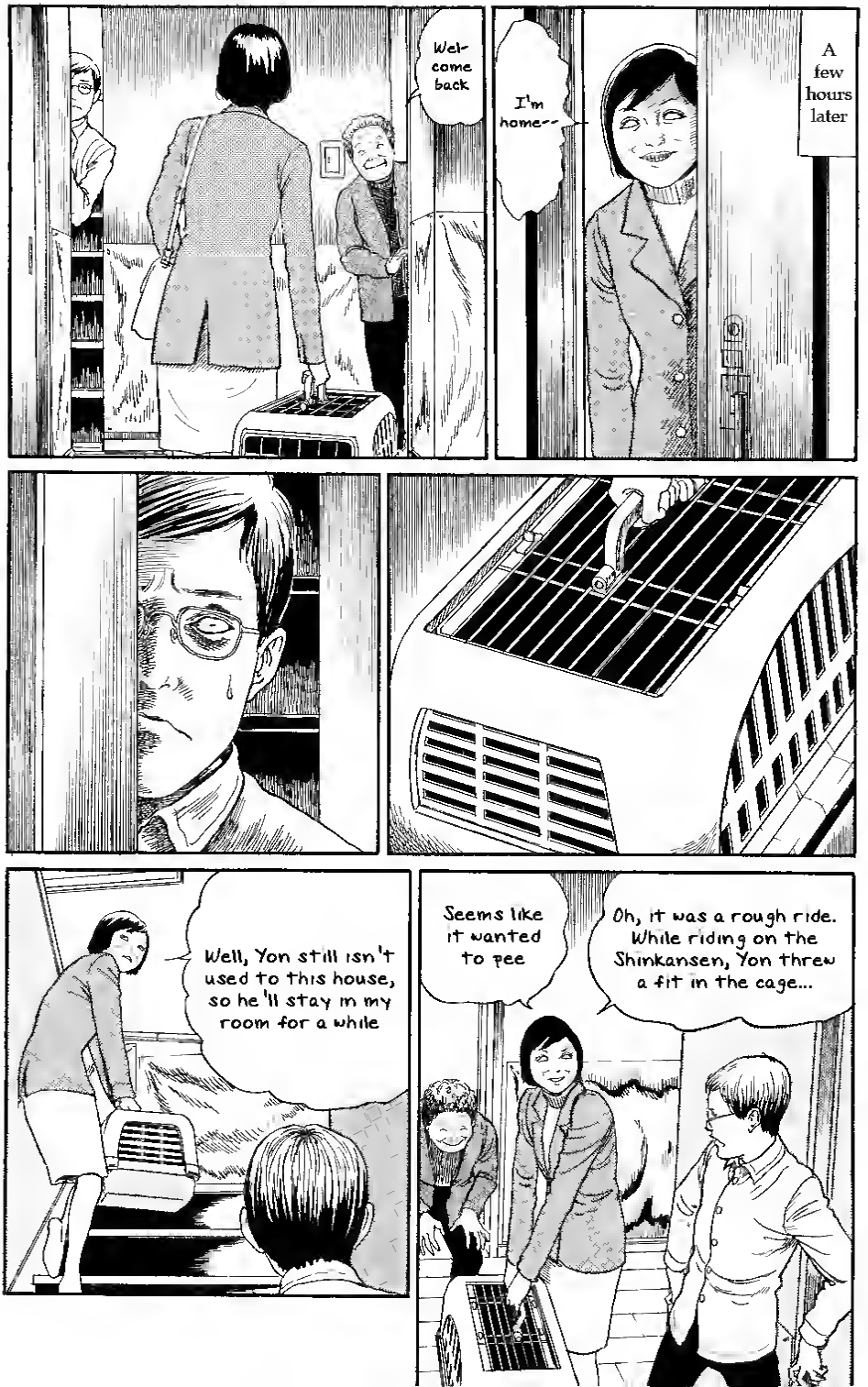

ドキドキ
ドキドキ
It's my first time going to Oosu by car...
* This horror manga author lives in Gifu Prefecture
We met the kitten in a corner of that crowded convention center
We went to a cat show taking place in some building at Oosu, Nagoya, in order to receive that Norwegian something kitten
Mom
Wah--- It's so cute---

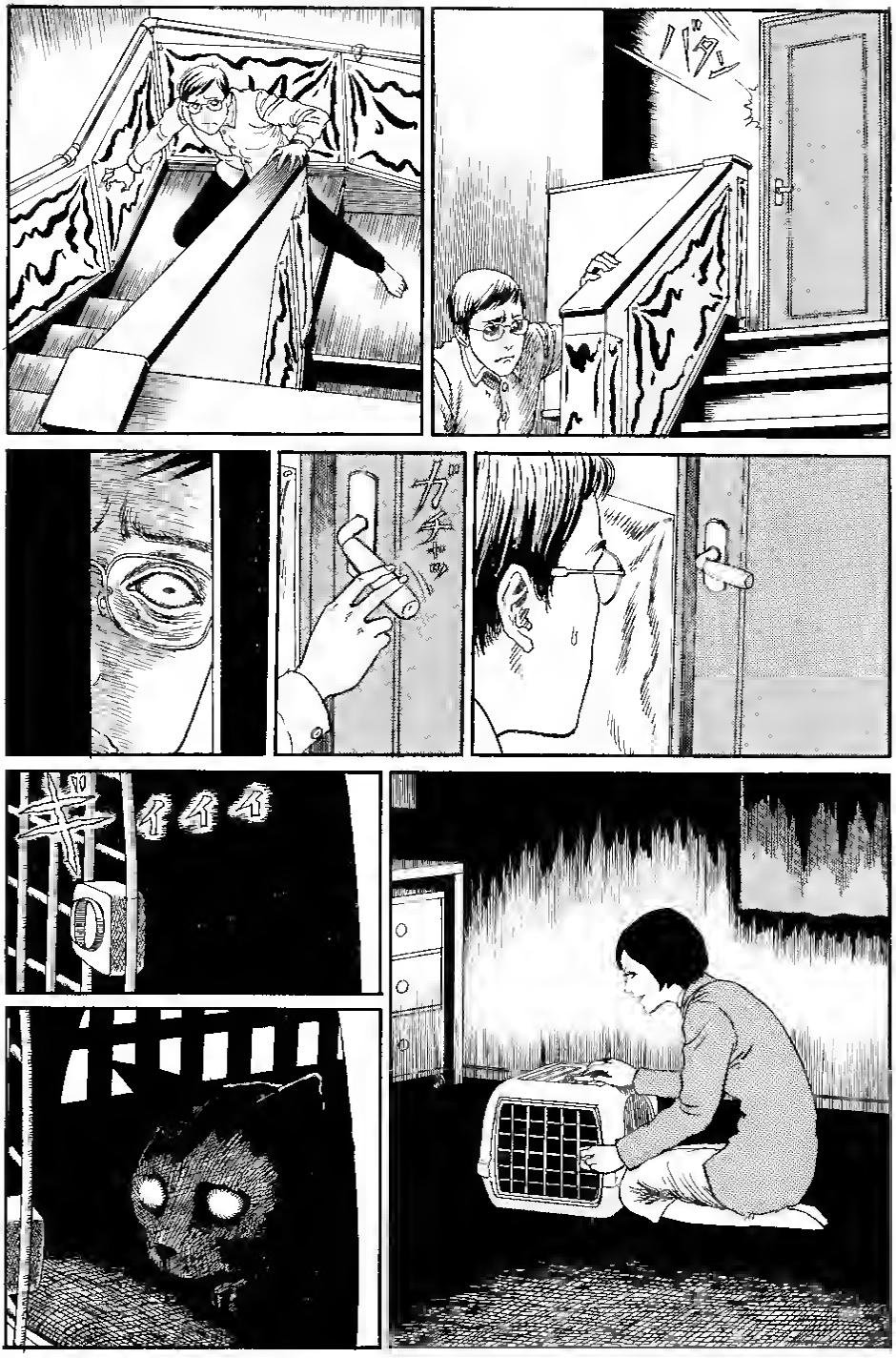

"Yon" is the fourth generation, and "Gorou" is next, so this cat is the sixth generation, which makes him "Muu"
I got its name. It's "Muu"
Oh--- That's a good boy
Come on, come on

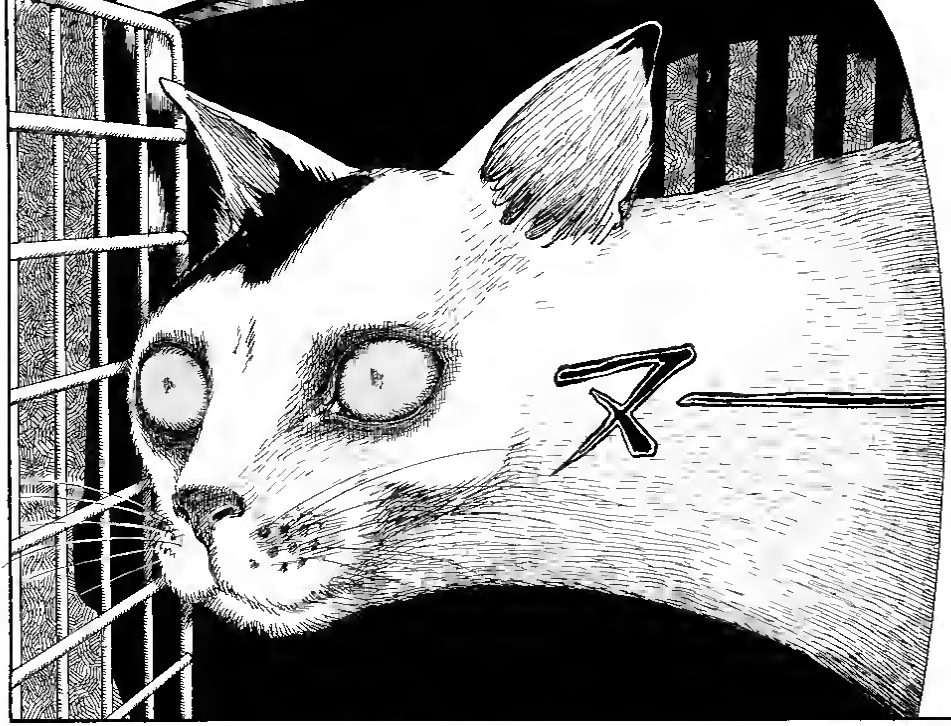

Ohnnn
So cute,
so cute
Oh---
How
cutennn
The
horror
manga
author's
mother
Sakura
the Chi-
huahua
ゴゴゴ
ゴロロ
Gimme
Gi...
Hah, hah

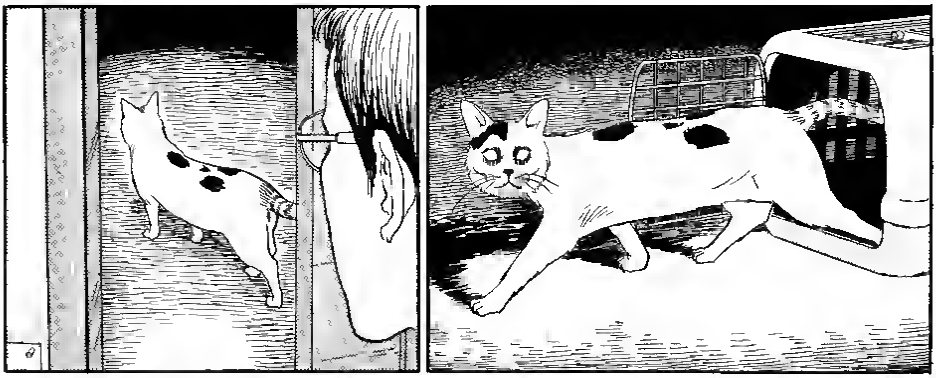
MHMMMM
MHMMM
MHMMM
GONNA EAT YOU UP~~~
I... I'm...
I'M GONNA EAT YOU UP~~~
ゴロン
チュッ
チュッ
チュッ
チュー

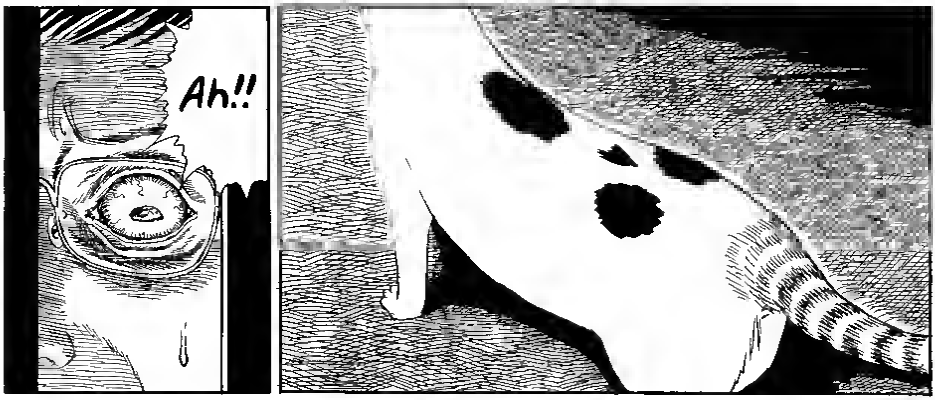
to my house...
...It's coming soon...
It's coming ...
A few hours later, it will be at my house...
Now, A-ko should be riding on the Shinkansen from Chiba
"Yon", the cat with that accursed face...


Welcome back
I'm home--
A few hours later
Well, Yon still isn't used to this house, so he'll stay in my room for a while
Seems like it wanted to pee
Oh, it was a rough ride. While riding on the Shinkansen, Yon threw a fit in the cage...

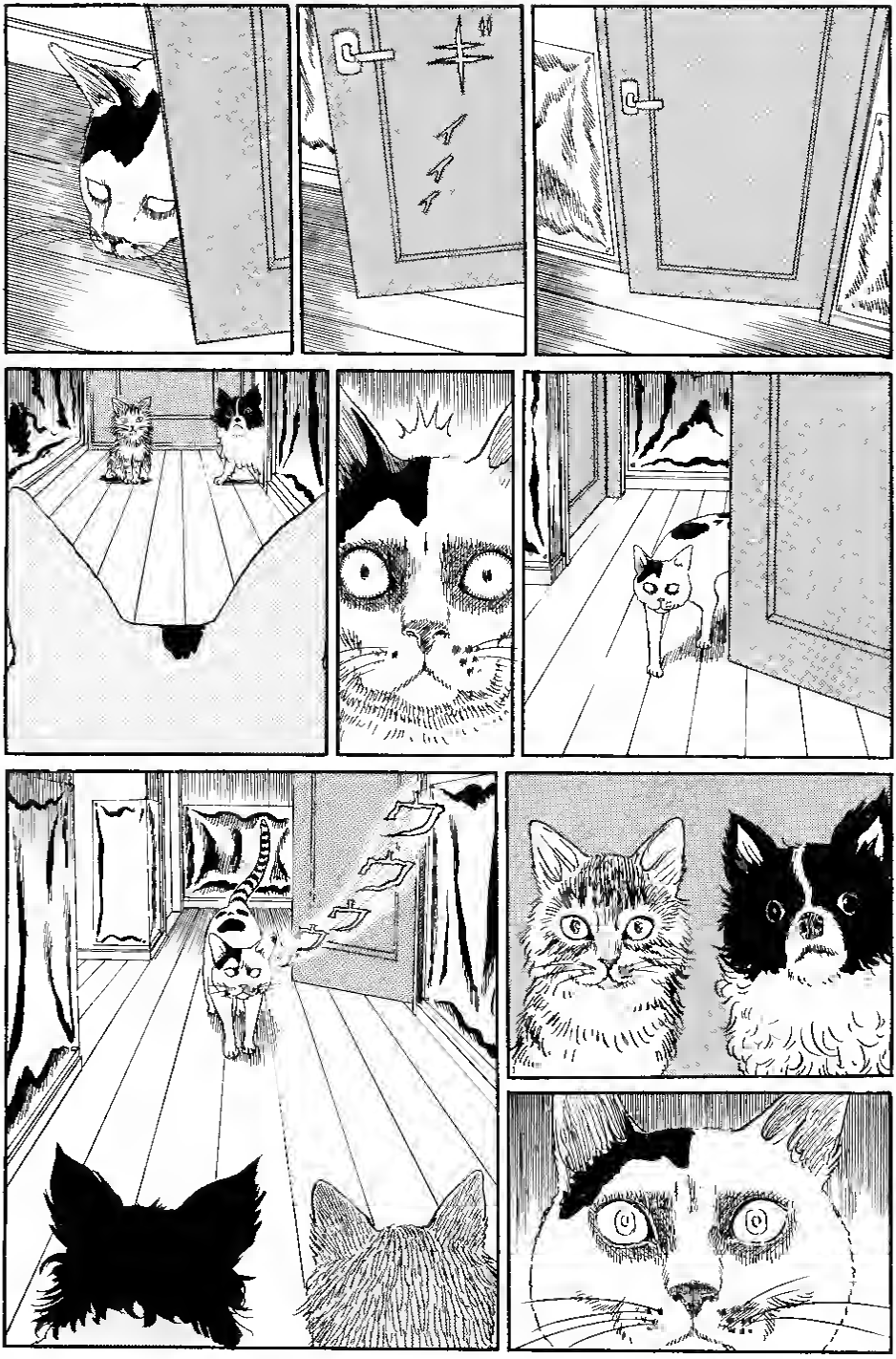

バタン
ガチャッ
イイイ

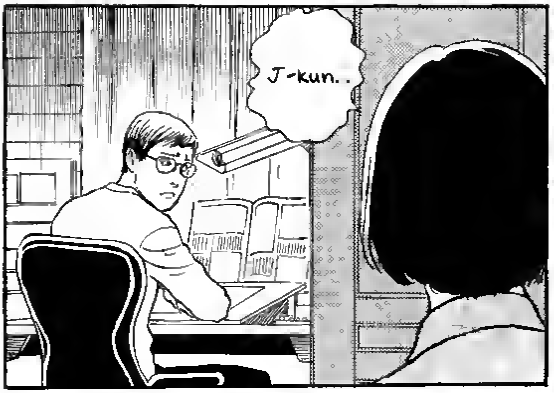


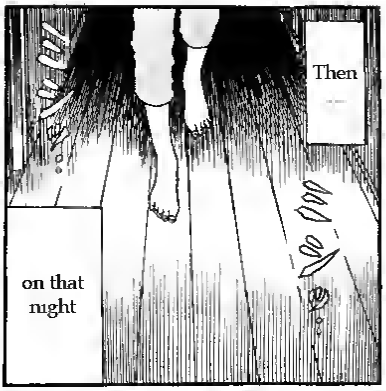


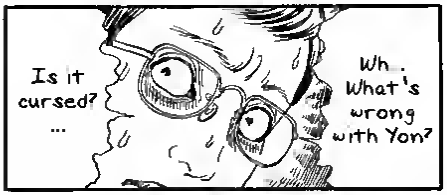

Ah!!

There's a skull pattern...
on Yon's back...
It...It's cursed...
This cat really is cursed...
The accursed cat has cometh
A curse has befallen my house


キィィィ
ウウウ

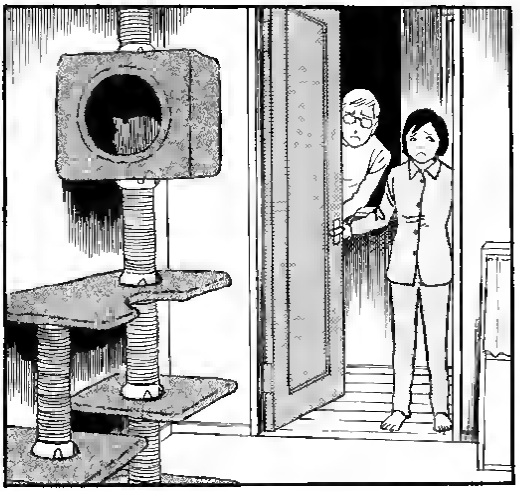

J-kun..

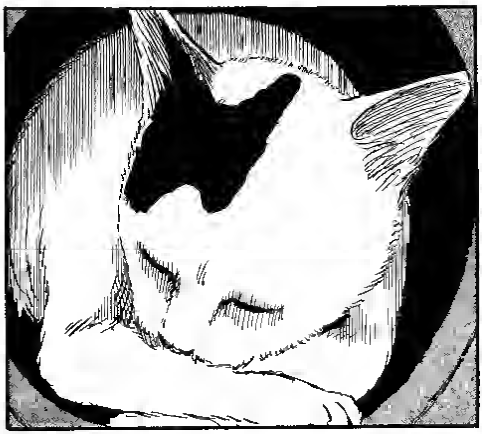

Then
on that night

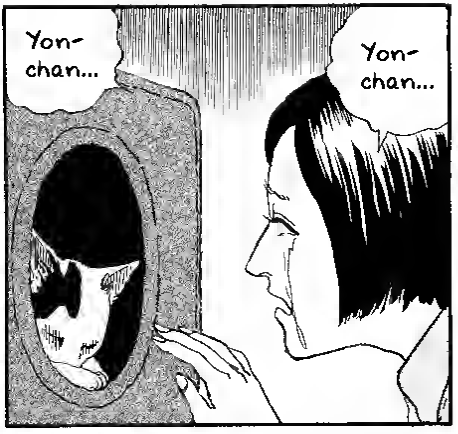

Is it cursed? ...
Wh.. What's wrong with Yon?

Ooo- ooh...
Yon is... Yon is...

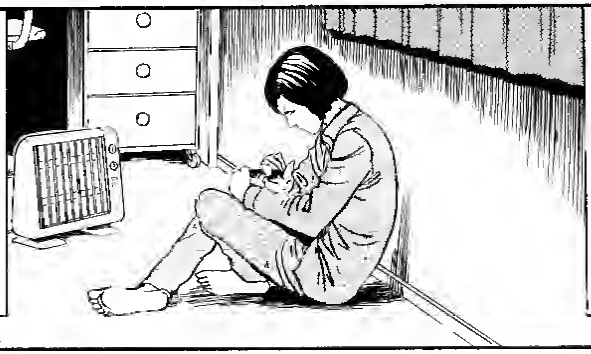
I'll look after him in my room tonight..
Yon didn't eat anything and fell sick



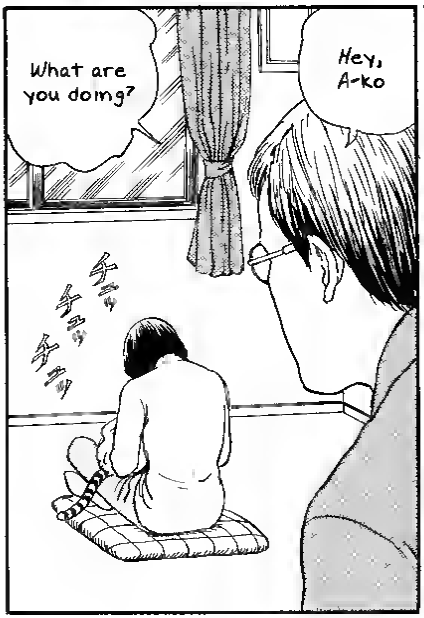




Thanks to A-ko's caregiving that night, Yon soon returned to health.

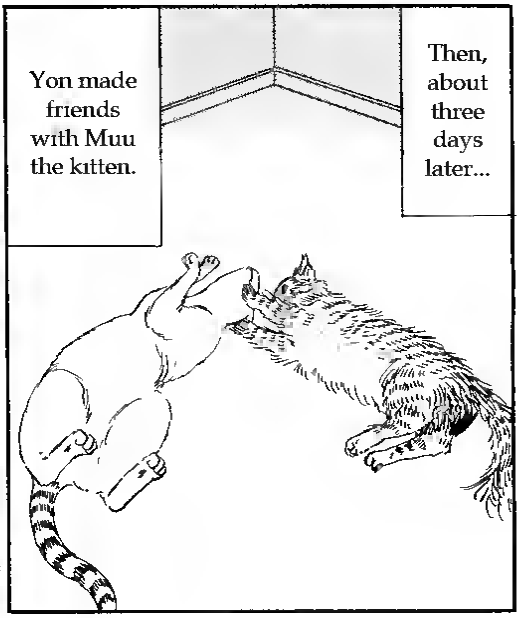


Yon got stressed out from suddenly being taken to an unknown place.



Yon made friends with Muu the kitten.

Then, about three days later...



チュボ
チュボ
チュボ
チュボ
It's a substitute for sucking on a nipple. He's still only one-year old.
It's "kiss-kiss"
It just has a "strange face"...
Hmm... "Kiss-kiss", huh...
I noticed it then... That Yon didn't have an "accursed face"...
Gi... Gimme
ハア
ハア
ハア
It's a strange face, but it's also cute...

KISS-KISS ME TOO
KISS-KISS!!
and "strange faced" Yon moved into my house
GRR
And that's how the calm Muu
What a strange house I've been brought to, meown
He only does kiss-kiss with me...
Hehe-he...
GRRRRRR

堀先生

I have a question, Mr. J!

Question.1

I hear that you're the vice chairman of your local neighborhood association. I wish that you drew an "A horror manga author is the vice chairman!?" spin-off to "Yon & Muu"...What do you do as the vice chairman?

Answer.

I mainly handle accounting. At the end of the month, I collect everyone's fees, and handle income and expenditures. I'm not good at arithmetic, so I always make sure to be careful so I don't get something wrong. Also, as the chairman's assistant, I help him with various duties around the neighborhood. Just the other day, the neighborhood association had a New Year's Party, so I was busy helping him organize it.

質問です！J先生

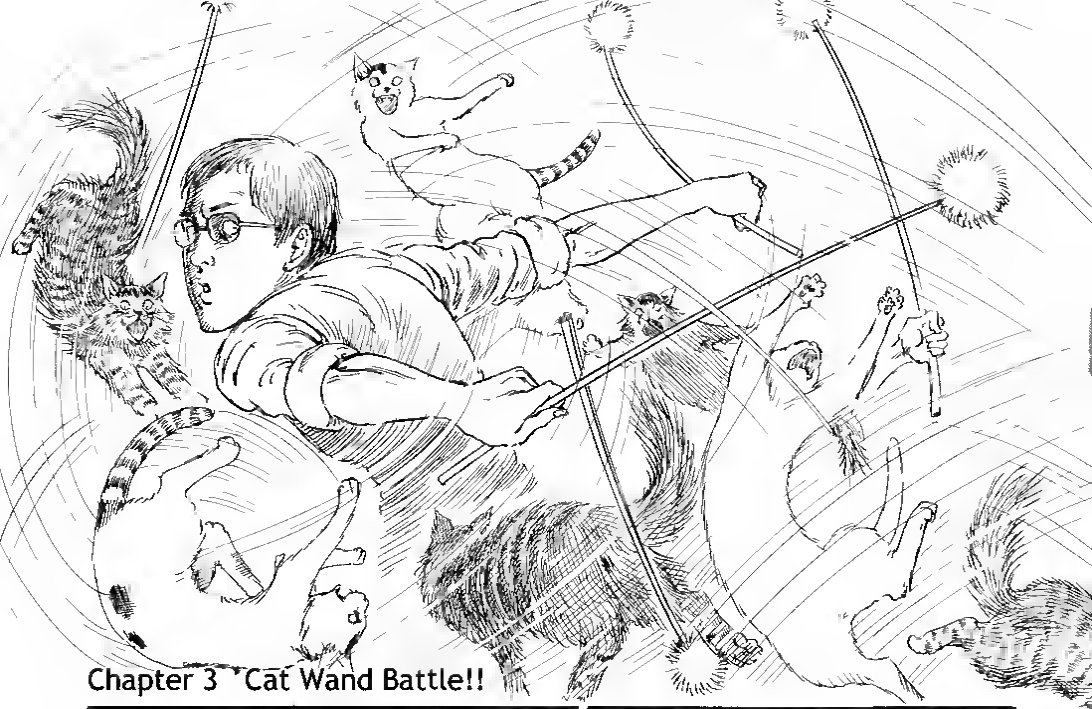
I have a question, Mr. J!

Question.2

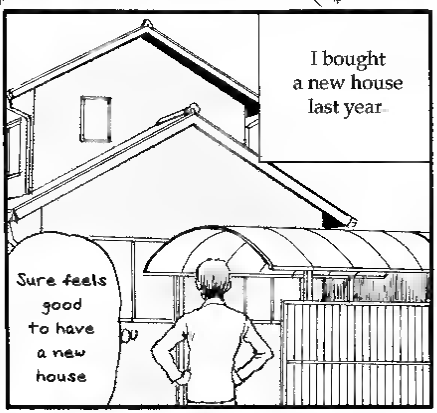
I heard that when you made your debut as a manga author, your mother and your sister were your assistants for a while. Is it true that they were better than you at adding in shading?

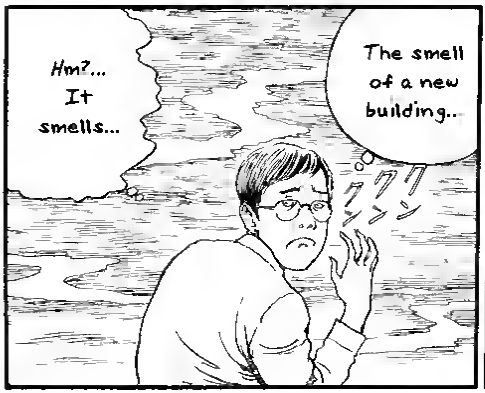
Answer.

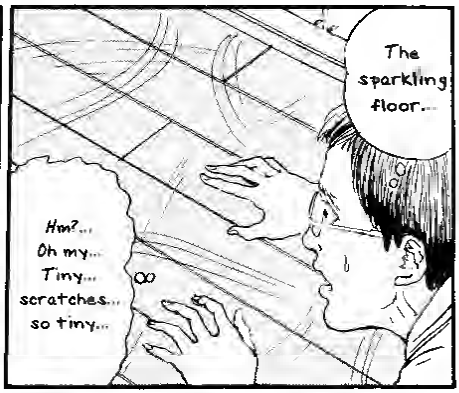
After I let them do it, they really got better than me. I'm really bad at adding in tones, so my mother and sister were better. Even now, my wife and mother are helping me.



Chapter 3 Cat Wand Battle!!



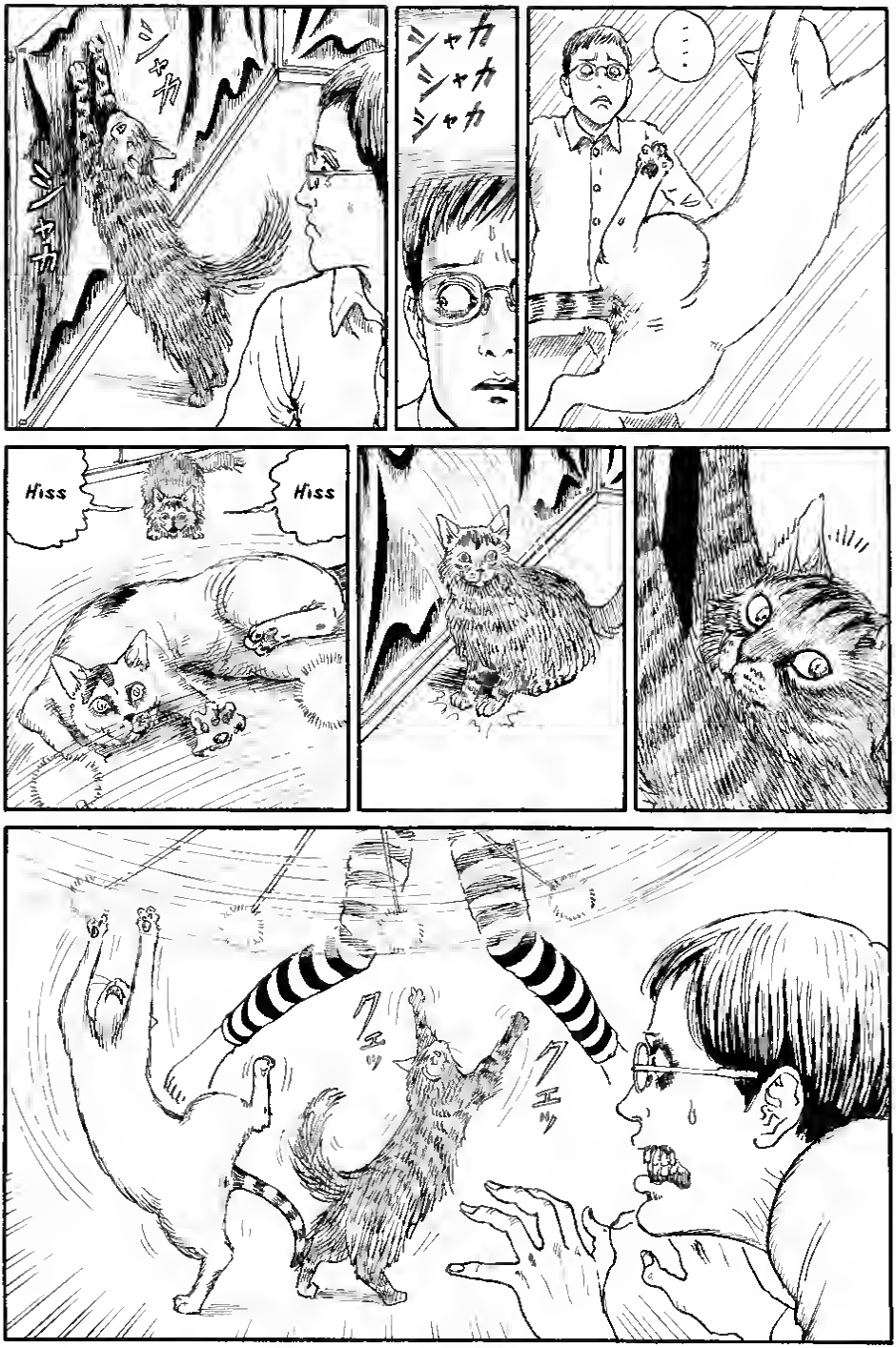




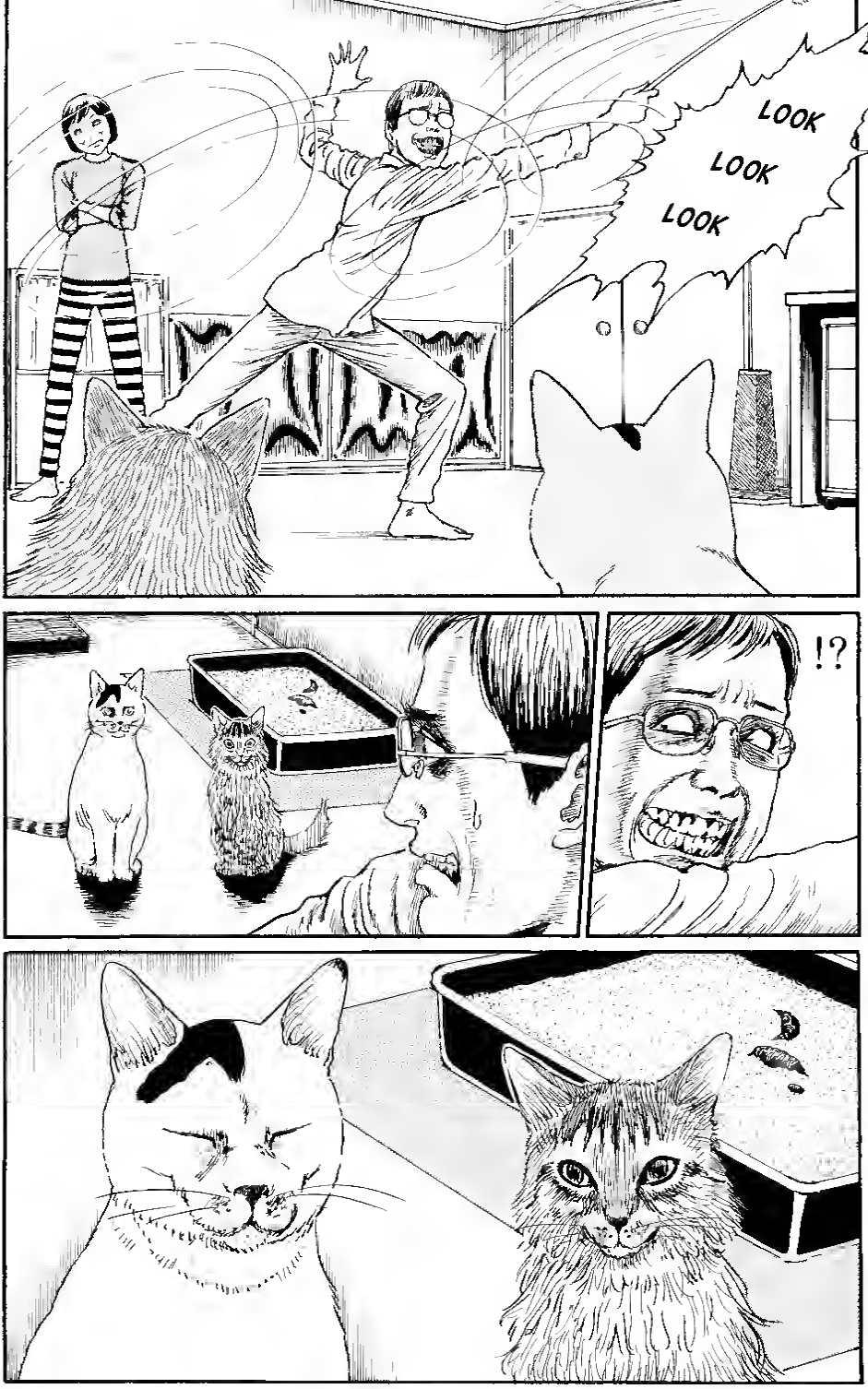
Wh... What's this!?
This is what's making the smell..
Why is this .
つと
つと
つと
つと
コト
Hm!?
ジョジョジョジョジョジョ
ザリ
ザリ

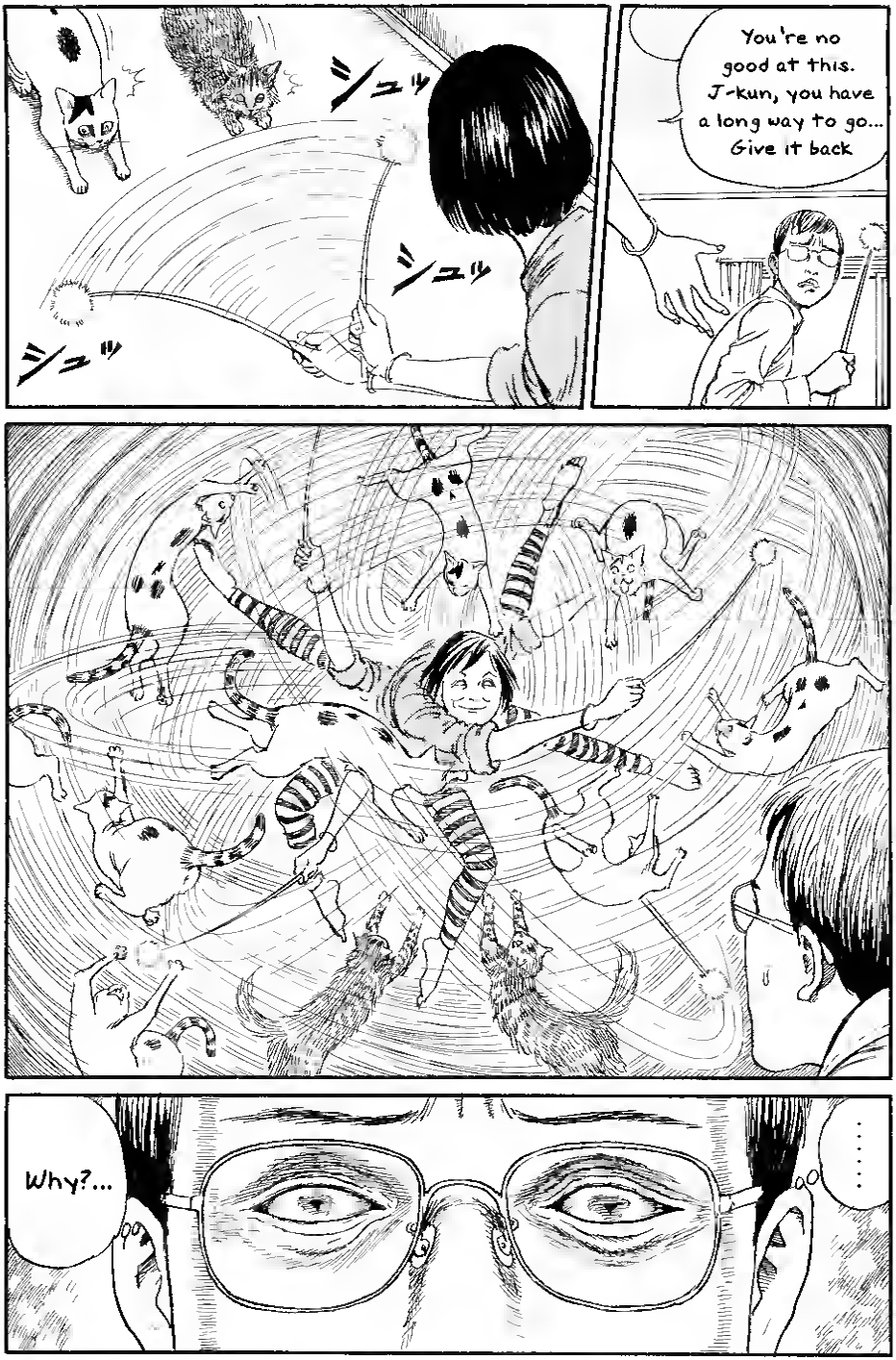
Hey! J!
Huh!?
"Yon" and "Muu"...
Now I remember that we adopted two cats.
ヨシ
...That's right, the cats!
Th...The cat is urinating!
サッ
A-ko...
コン
コンコンコン
コンコン
コン

コン
コン
コン
シャカ シャカシャカ
ガリッ

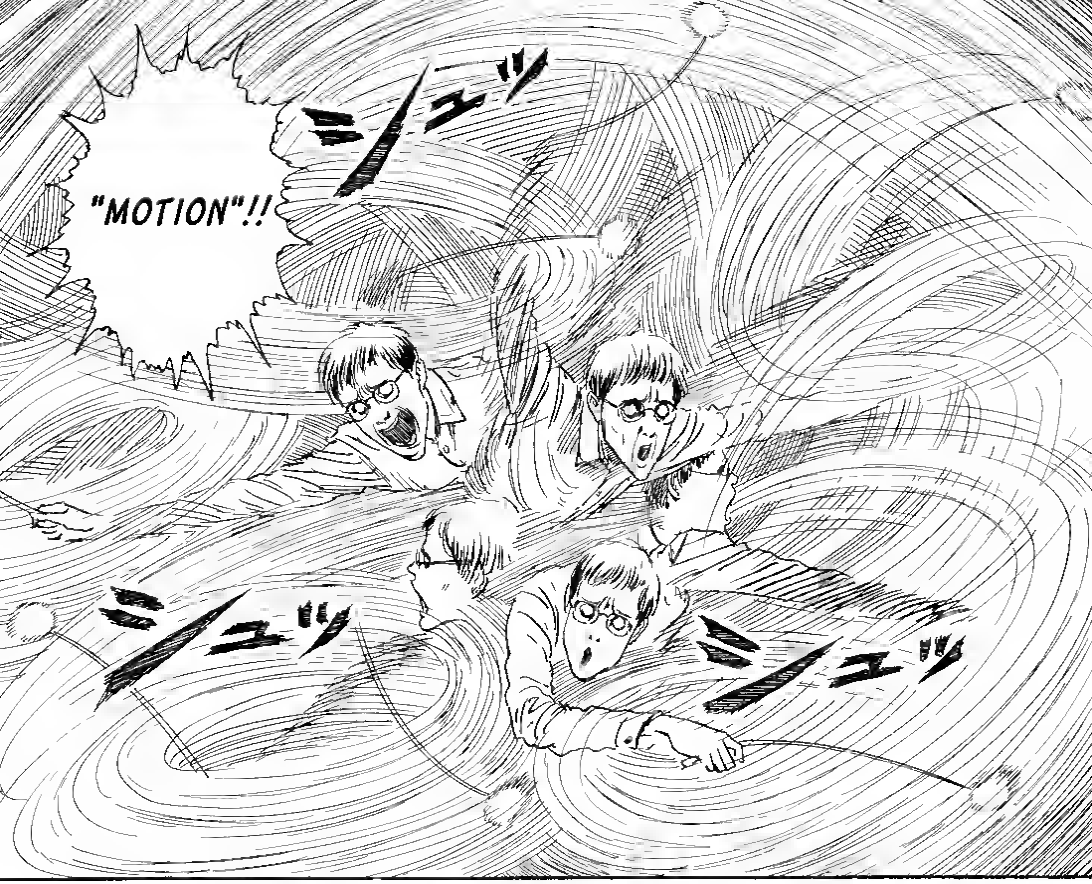

シャカ
シャカ
シャカ
シャカ
シャカ
シャカ
……
Hiss
Hiss
クェッ
クェッ

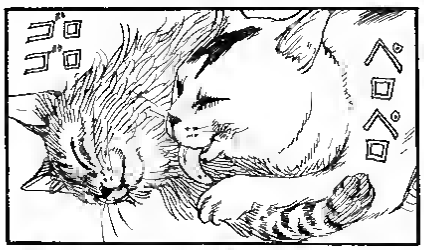
DOING WHATEVER THEY WANT IN MY NEW HOUSE!!
Mmm... For some reason, "Yon" and "Muu" are..
ガリッ
シャカ
ギッ
GIVE ME THAT
What?
A-KO!!
SWING THIS SO ARROGANTLY!!
HOW DARE YOU, HOW DARE YOU...
HOW DARE YOU SWING THIS WAND LIKE THIS!!

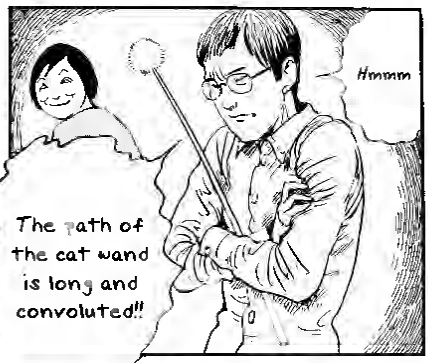

LOOK
LOOK
LOOK
!?


シュッ
シュッ
シュッ
You're no good at this. J-kun, you have a long way to go... Give it back
Why?...
.....

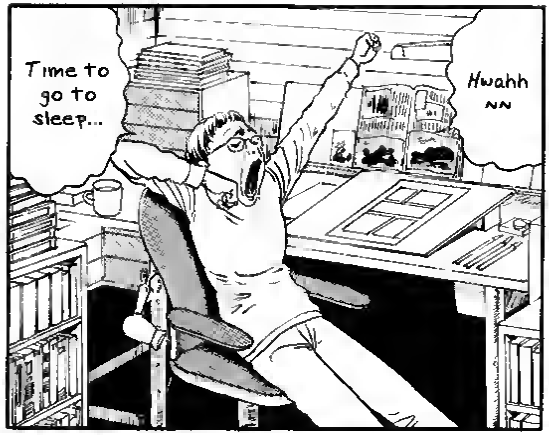
First, "stop"
ピタッ
Look closely
You have to tickle the heart of the cats with the cat wand
……
THEN MOVE!!
シャカ
シャカ
シャカ
シャカ
Give it a try
But just moving it doesn't work...
"Tranquility", and...
ピタッ
……

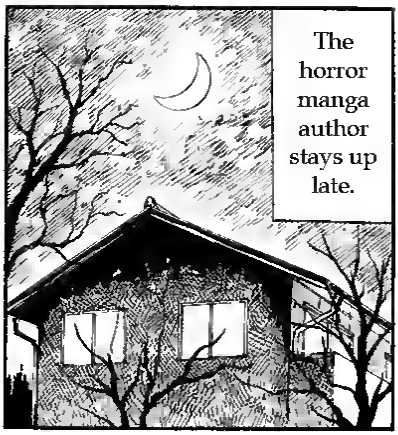

"MOTION"!!
シュッ
シュッ
シュッ


ゴロゴロ
ペロペロ

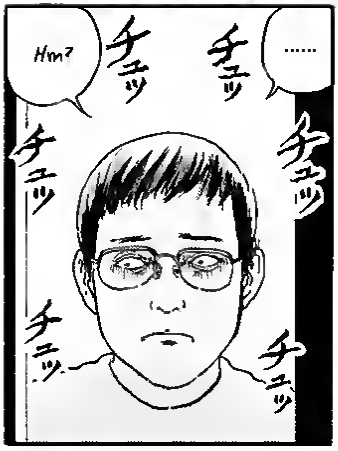

Hmmm
The path of the cat wand is long and convoluted!!

H-i-s-s
H-i-s-s
!?



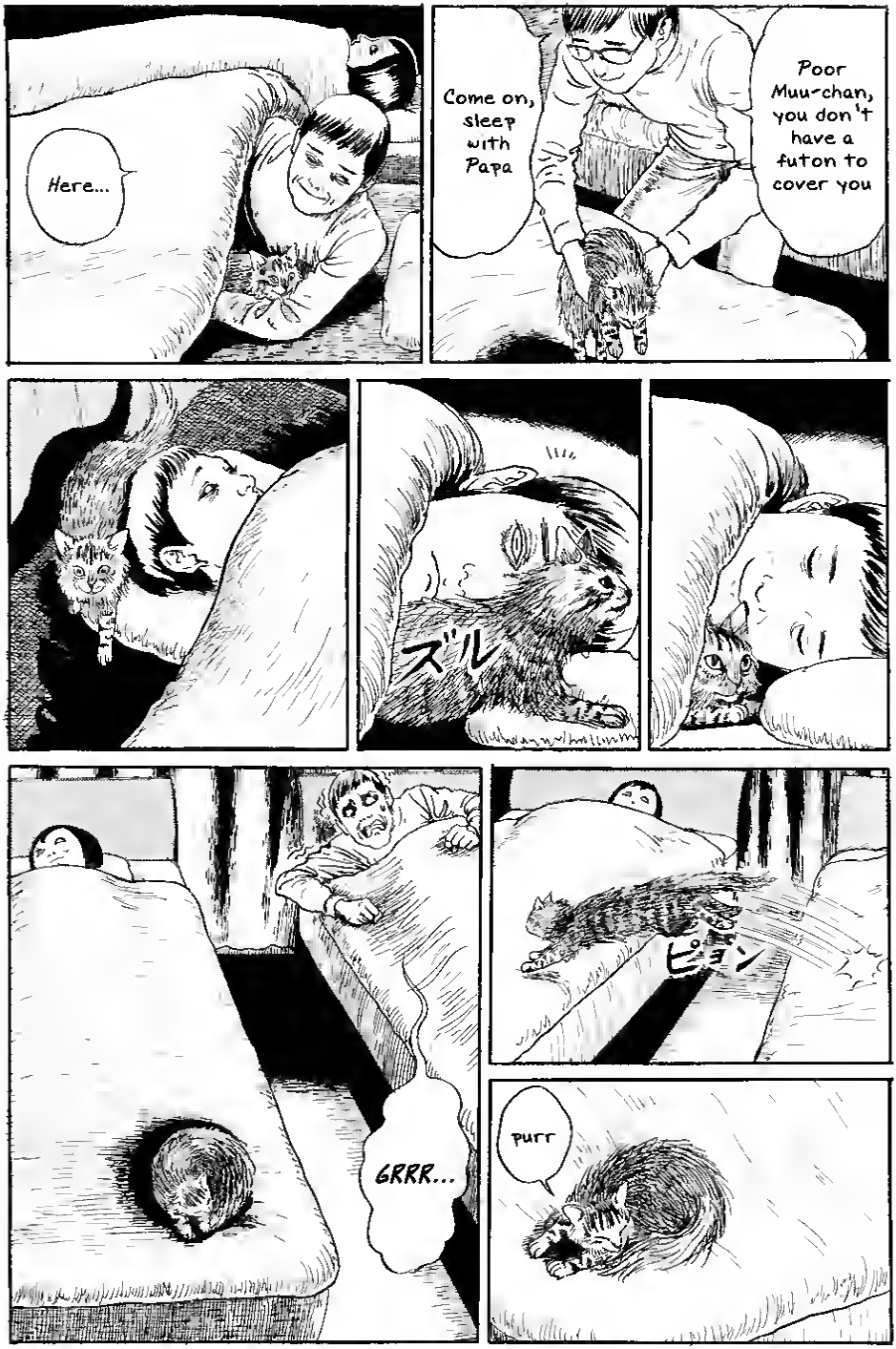


Chapter 4 The Happenings of a Certain Night



チュッ
チュッ
チュッ
チュッ
チュッ
Oh my. There's some strange sound coming from A-ko's bed..
The blanket is also covering her in a strange way
She can't be cheating on me..
ガバッ
You... Don't come complaining
after your adultery is revealed...

チュッ
チュッ
Ah..
What is it? I'm getting cold
Put the blanket back on me
Oh.. It's just Yon sucking on her finger...
How rude.
Time to sleep


Here...
Come on, sleep with Papa
Poor Muu-chan, you don't have a futon to cover you
ズル
ピョン
GRRR...
purr

but it's wider over here on my semi-double bed
Ah... I see...
so the futon is too hot for it
Muu is a Northern European cat,
チュッ
チュッ
チュッ
チュッ
チュッ
チュッ
チュッ
....
It must like me more, so it wants to be close to me...
Hehehe....
If she has sorcery, then I'll fight back with tangible goods
That's right..
ガバッ
チュッ
チュッ
チュッ
チュッ
チュッ
...There's no doubt that A-ko must have some sorcery that attracts the cats...
チュッ
チュッ
チュッ
チュッ
チュッ
Dammit...

C'mere, c'mereNN
カラ
カラ
カラ
Look... there's delicious snacks here
キュッ
キュッ
カリ
カリ
カリ
ぴょん
Mre ow
ぴょん
ガリ
ガリ
ガリ
もぞ
もぞ
ガリ
Hehehe
もぞっ

EHEHEHEHEHEHEHEH
ガリ
ゴリ
Ohh... Are you satisfied? ..
will stay on my bed .. Hehe-heh
Heeheehee... Now both of them
ガリッ
They returned right after eating!!
ぴょん
ぴょん

Alright, time for the cat wand!!
LOOK
LOOK
Stop this right.
J-kun!!
NYAOW

It was just a dream
Ah...
UWAH
Something is around my pillow...
Ah
That was a terrible dream..
Phew
サラッ
サラッ
What could it be?
I did it...I finally did it...
Muu is sleeping by my side!!
It's Muu!!
Oh.. this fur..

Hwahn
I feel refreshed..
Ah...
.....
Do you like being by my side that much?
Muu, are you still asleep?
...I see.
It's just a bulge in the bedding...
Oh..

Jセンセイ

I have a question, Mr. J!

Question.3

How do you use the experience and skills from your former career as a dental technician in the drawing manga?
I could feel your skills in the really good sculptures that you created as models for human characters.

Answer.

Dental technicians make things that are put into the patient's mouth, so they must polish them in order to not hurt the patient.
I do still use my skills as a technician to make and polish tools for drawing manga.

Jセンセイ

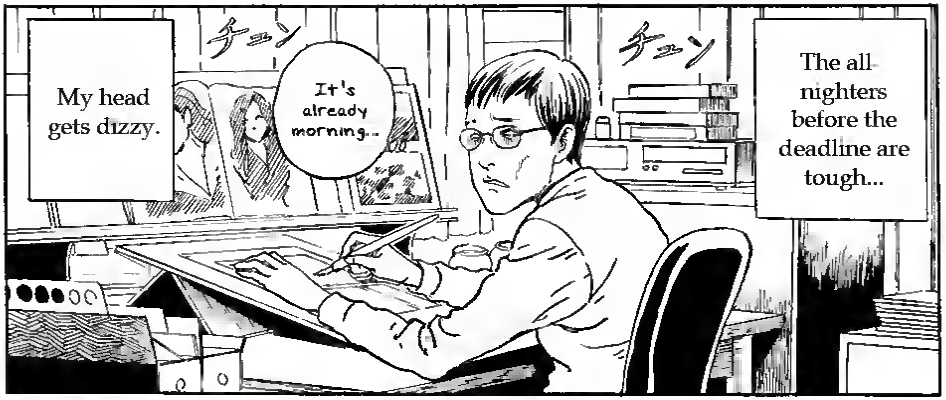
I have a question, Mr. J!

Question.4

"Yon & Muu" seems to have garnered some praise from your family as well.
What did they think about it?

Answer.

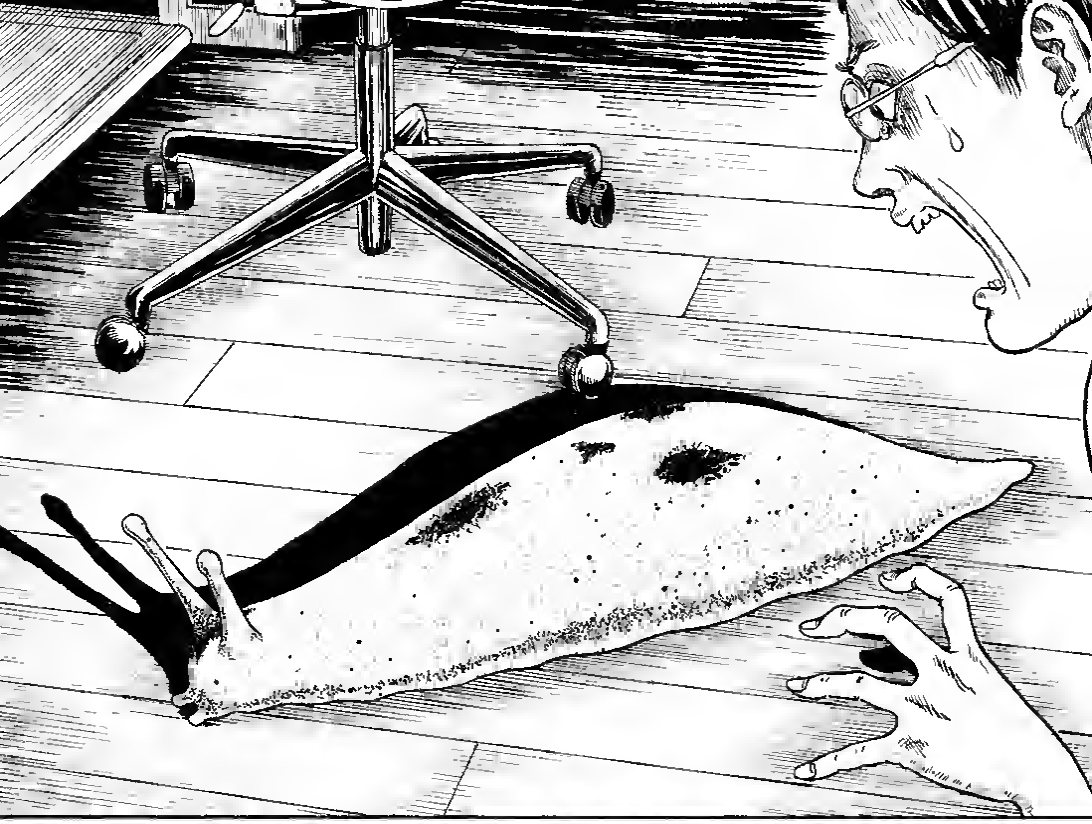
My wife gave me guidance about the nature of cats.
When I was making the storyboard, she also gave me her comments.
My mother said that it was an interesting manga.
My sister said that she wanted her long-haired female cat Ran-chan (official name: Ran Purahachi Daruma-Tsuchinoko-Bandit-Katsushin) to appear in the manga, but I didn't have enough pages to make that happen. Sorry.


My head gets dizzy.
It's already morning...
チュン
チュン
The all-nighters before the deadline are tough...

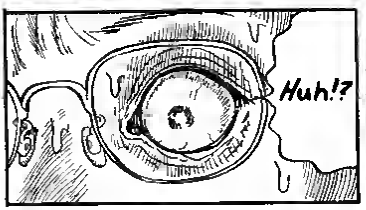
I'll just go wash my face...

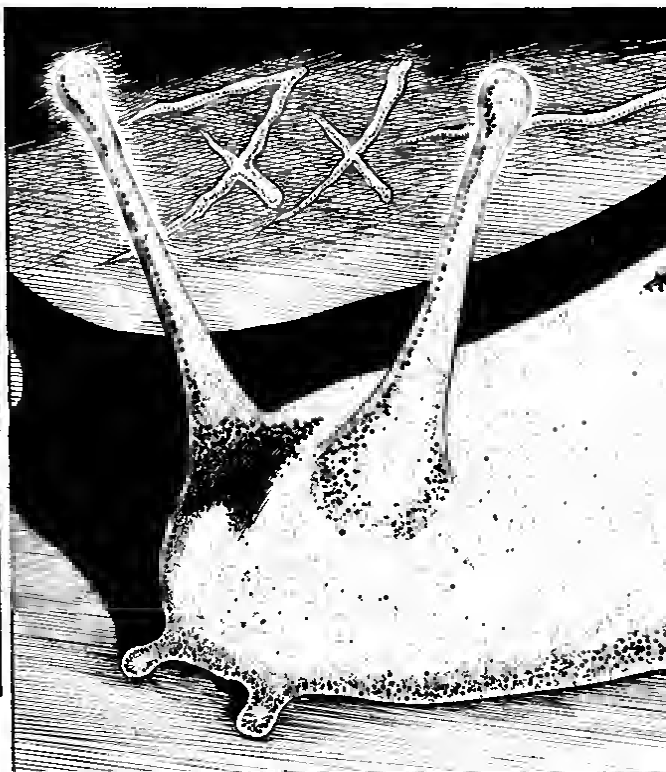
Huh!?

Ahnnn I'm all dizzy...



WO
AA
AH~

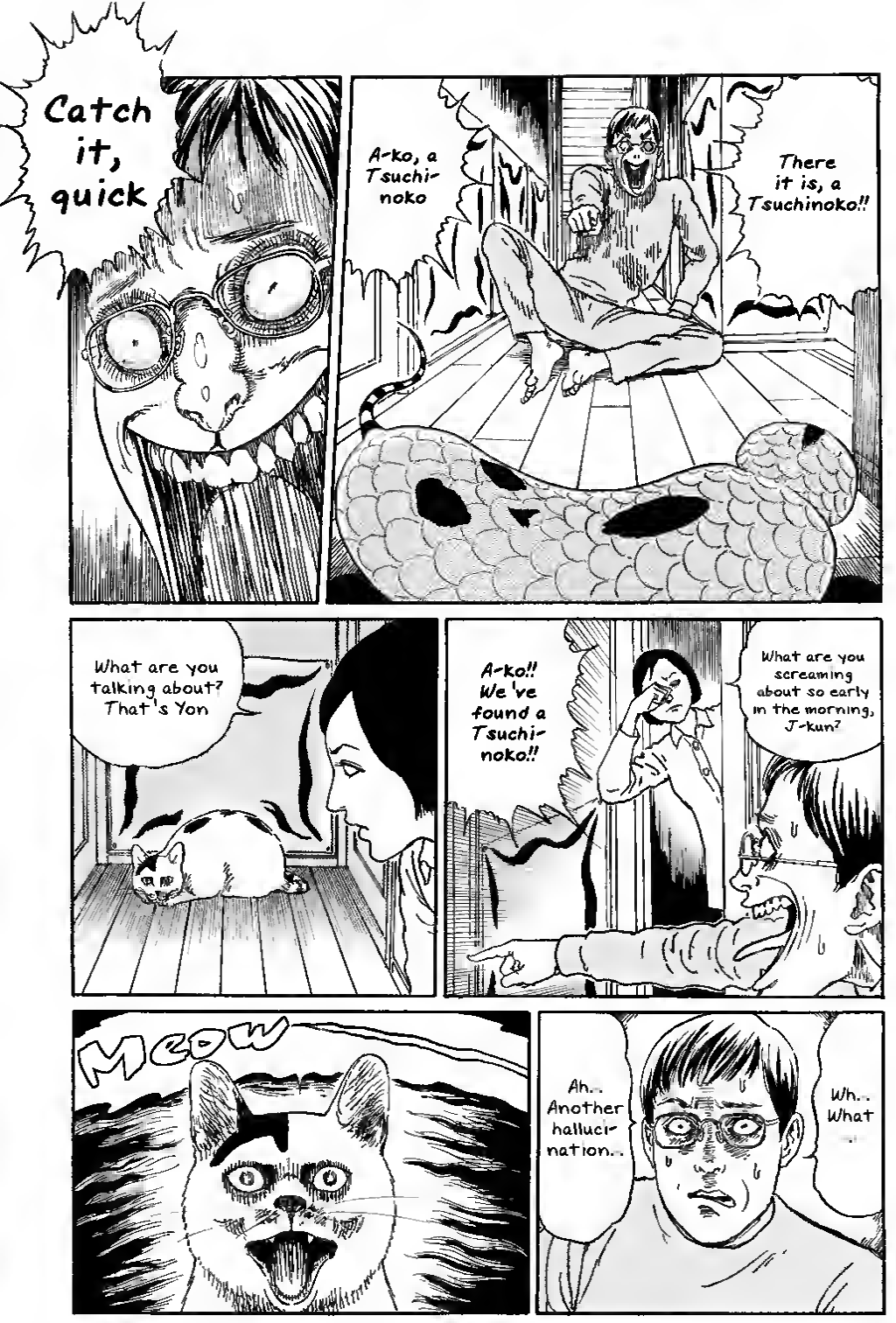

Huh!?



クルッ
O...Oh, it's Yon... I thought that I saw a giant slug..
I sure am tired..
meow meow
Hwa~~~~~~~ah
.....

What a easygoing cat...
And here I am, pulling an all-nighter...
ペ
ペペロ
ロロ
スタスタス
スタスタスタス
!?

AHHH


Catch it, quick
A-ko, a Tsuchi-noko
There it is, a Tsuchinoko!!
What are you talking about? That's Yon
A-ko!! We've found a Tsuchi-noko!!
What are you screaming about so early in the morning, J-kun?
MEOW
Ah... Another hallucination...
Wh... What...

Ah!!
...Oh no... I have to finish the draft and go to sleep..
I'd be in trouble if I even start seeing Muu as a lion or something
...Thank goodness, Muu is still Muu
You're so cute when you're all calm like that..
Oh, that's a good boy
Mrre-ow
ゴロゴロ

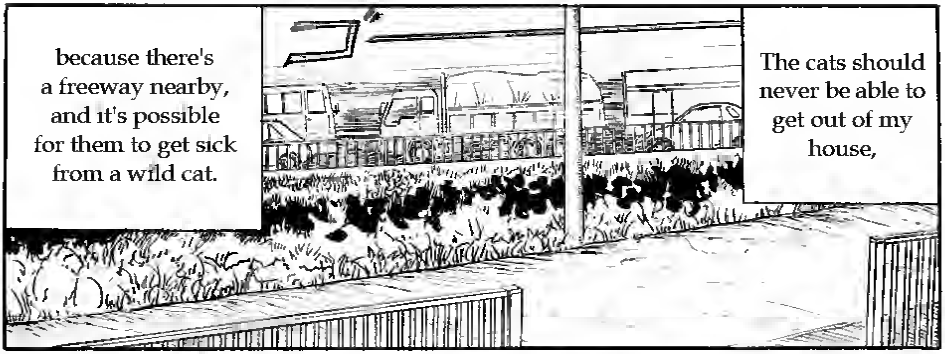
Is he really a cat?
The problem is Yon...
Ah
He bit me really hard, though...
...Well, I'll forgive him because he's so cute...
カリ
Ah..
That old geezer...
Wh...Who is that!?
Meow—
Ah
It'll heal me up
What I need now is rest...
カリ
カリ
カリ
I'm just too tired..
No... No, no...

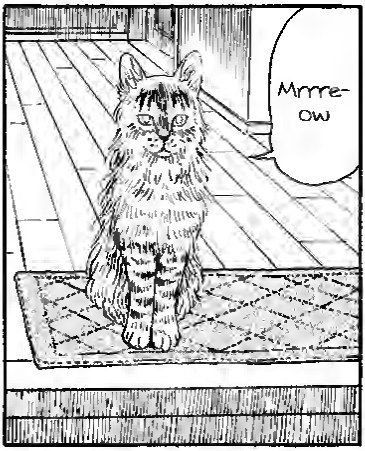
ぴょん
Me-ow~
Yon...
What has gotten into you...
Wh... What...
クルー
ブルンブルン
ブルンブルン
ブルンブルン
ブルンブルン

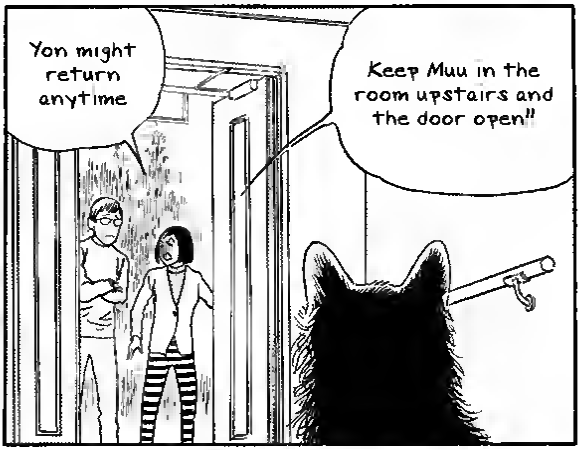
ブルン
ブルン
ブルン
ブルン
ブルン
That's right... It was like... "that kind of mood"...
.....
ブルン
ブルン
ブルン
...It was a strange moment...
チュポッ
Yon's warm, rough tongue surrounded my tired finger... It was quiet... yet strong, like a beating heart!!
チュニッ
チュニッ
チュニッ
チュニッ
チュニッ
チュニッ
It was my first kiss-kiss... Until now, he only did it with A-ko...
However... That might have been my hallucination as well...

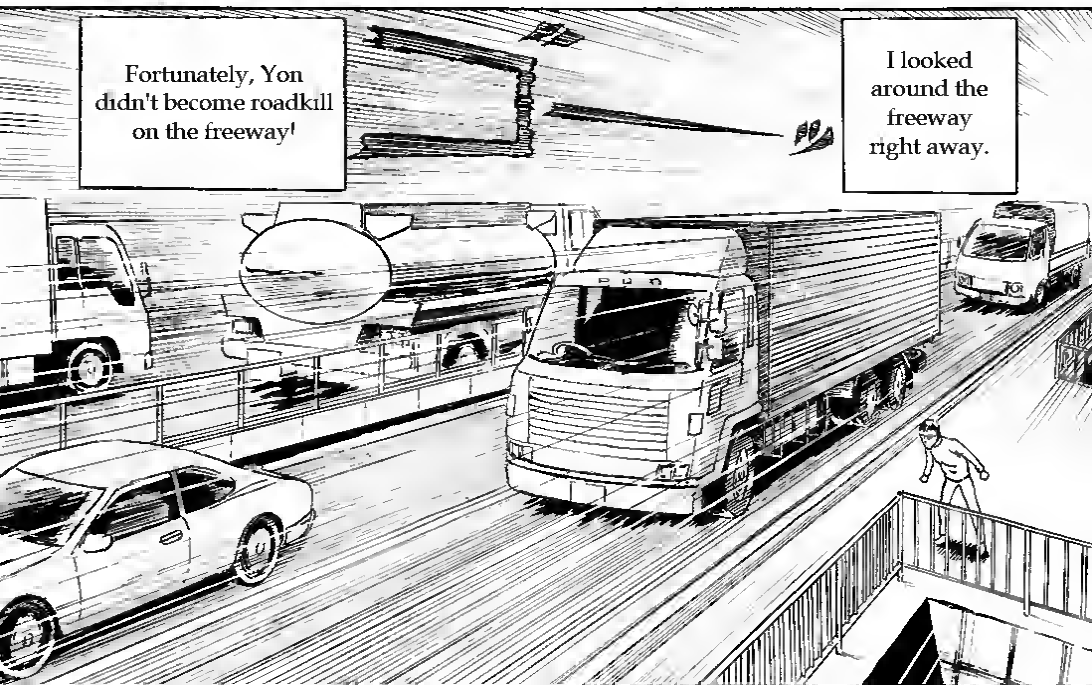
was full of curiosity!!
Chapter 6 Yon's Great Escape
This strange-faced cat...
slide
Hm?
ハッ
J-kun
カリカリカリ

Wh... What!?
Yon ran away!!
What is it, A-ko?
Yon pried it open and escaped!!
I was being careless and left the screen open as well...
but Yon was nowhere to be seen.
...We went out to look around right away...
When I realized it, Yon already jumped down from the roof to the fence


because there's a freeway nearby, and it's possible for them to get sick from a wild cat.
The cats should never be able to get out of my house,


Mrrre-ow

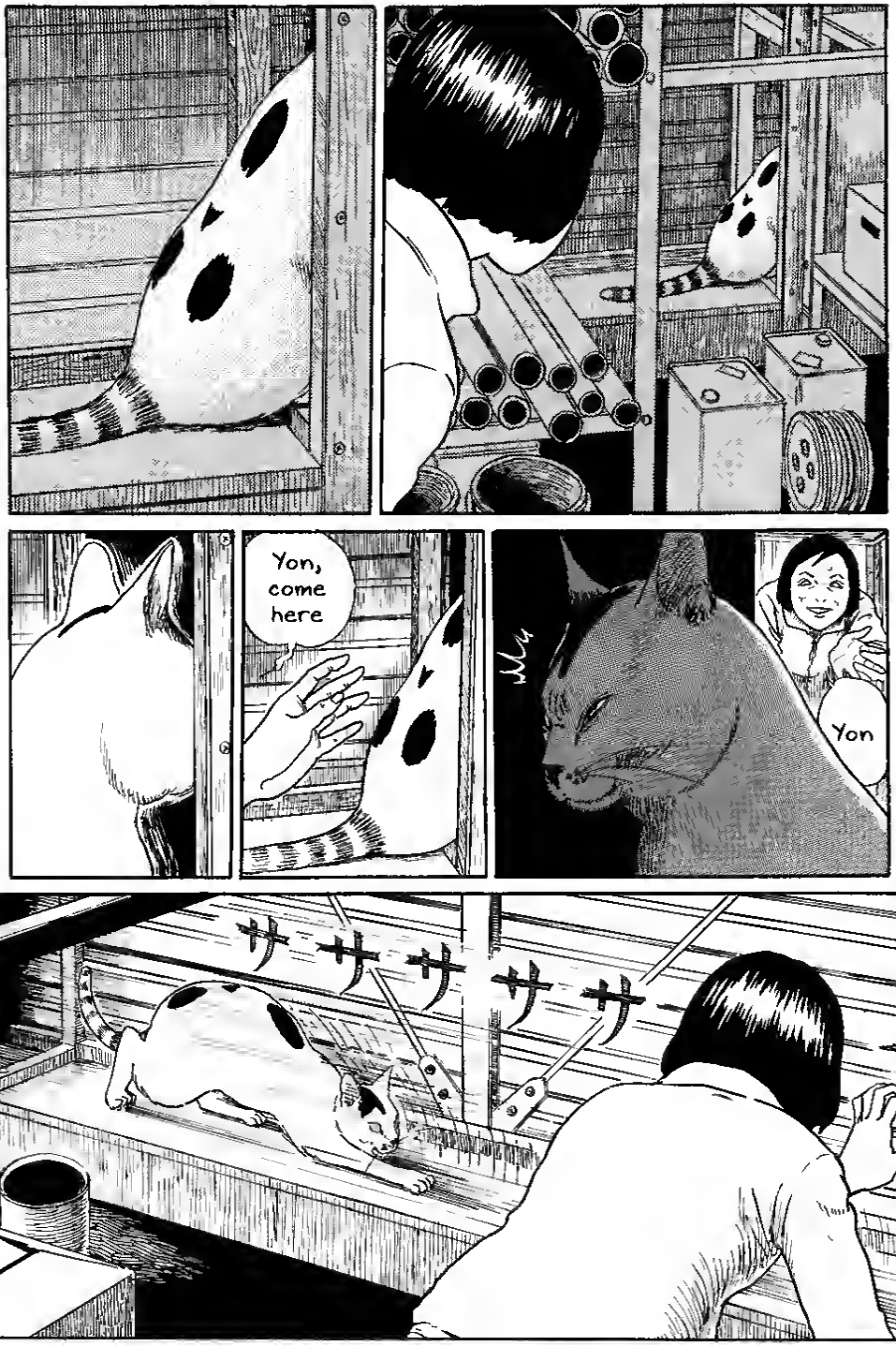

Yon might return anytime
Keep Muu in the room upstairs and the door open"


Fortunately, Yon didn't become roadkill on the freeway!
I looked around the freeway right away.

Next, I looked for it in the paddy fields.
It would be bad if it wandered here...
I have to catch it soon...
It's still not home
Mom
I went home once in while, but in each of those times, Yon hadn't returned home.
Sometime along the way, the head of the local plumbers joined the search.
The words of some cat-finding expert crossed her mind.
Cats don't run that far away... It's hiding somewhere close by...
While we were continuing our sweep of the area, A-ko searched by herself.

Sign: Tazono Plumbing

田園水道
the plumbers' warehouse has to be it!!
When talking about places close to my house in which a cat can hide in...
A-ko got permission from the plumbers to look inside of their warehouse.
!!
Yon
Yon


Yon, come here
Yon
サ サ サ サ サ サ

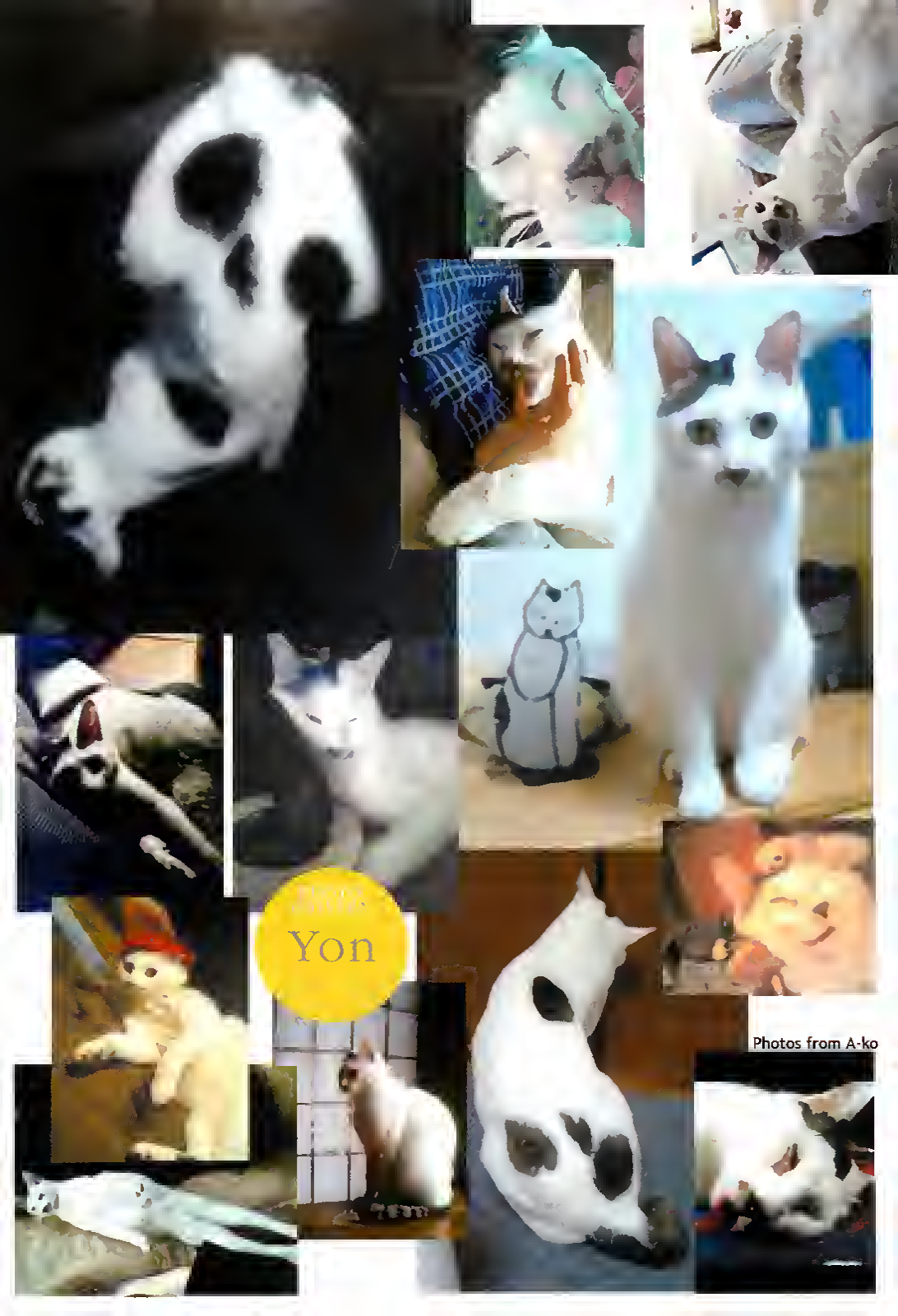
ゴトゴトゴト
サッ
Ah..
It went into the wall!?
.....

However, A-ko still hadn't returned home after an hour.
The courteous plumbers let A-ko try to lure Yon out with cat feed.
Then began the battle of patience.
Hey, A-ko, it's still not coming out?
Then, a young gentleman from the plumbers showed up.
Did it go into the gap between the walls? Let's try knocking at it
ガ"ガ"
ガ"ガ"
ガ"ガ"

Didn't work, huh...
Then, I'll take the wall down
Huh? Is that fine with you!?
!!
ガタッ

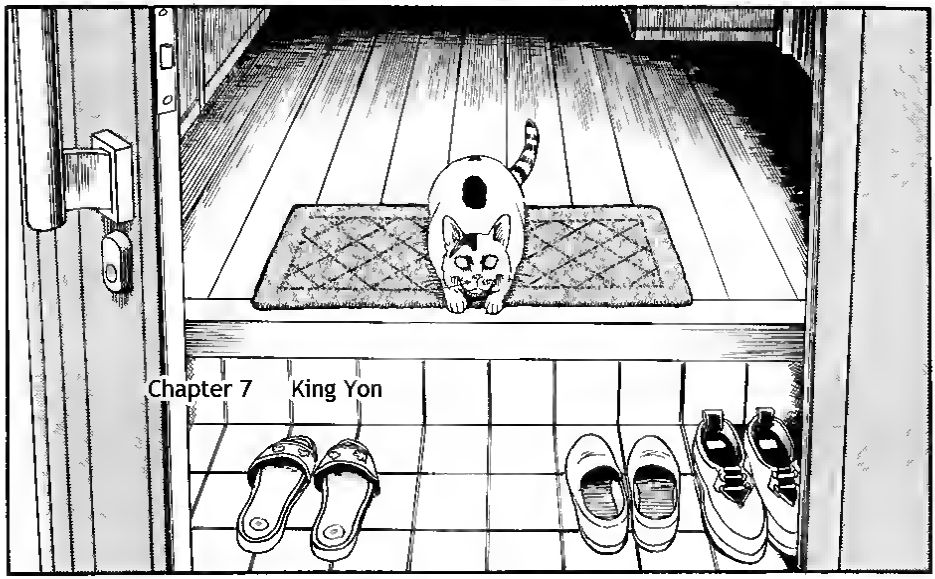
You got it, J!

It was all thanks to the plumbers.
That's how Yon's great escape ended in failure!!

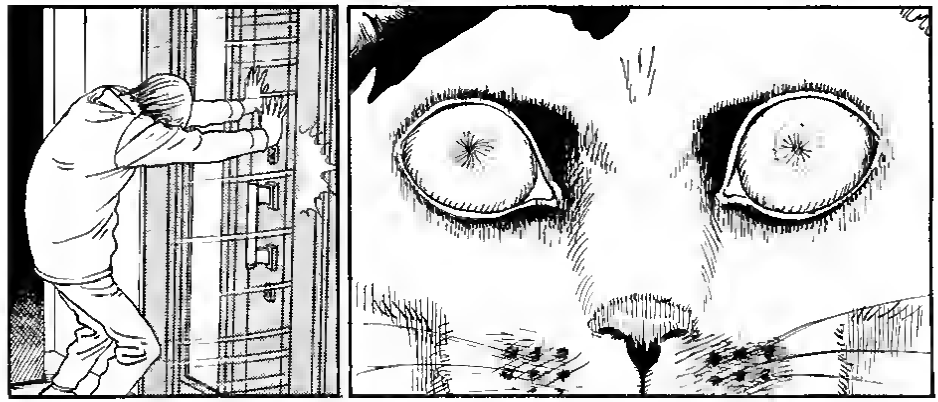


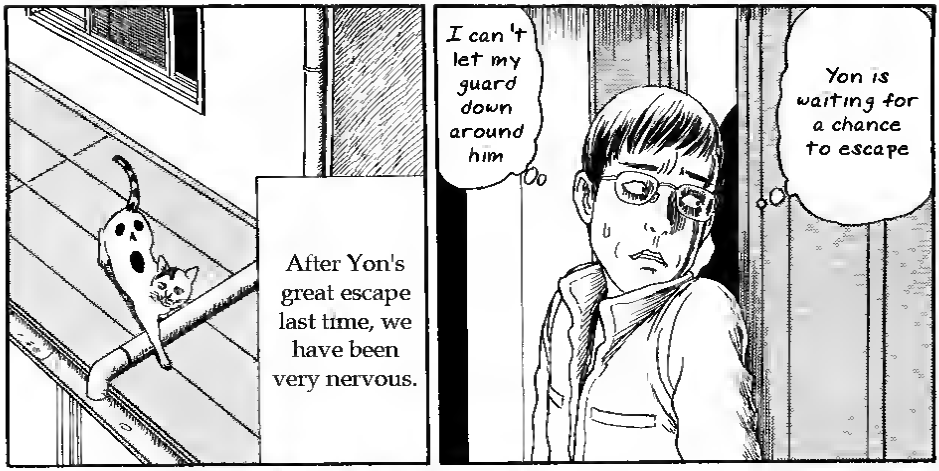
Photos from A-ko

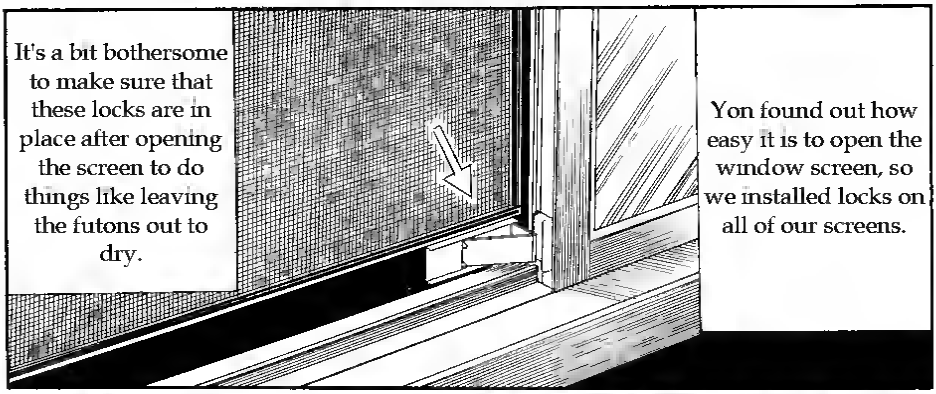
Mû

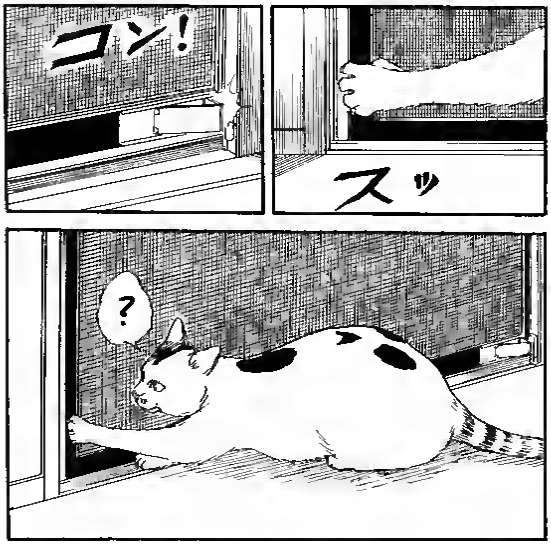


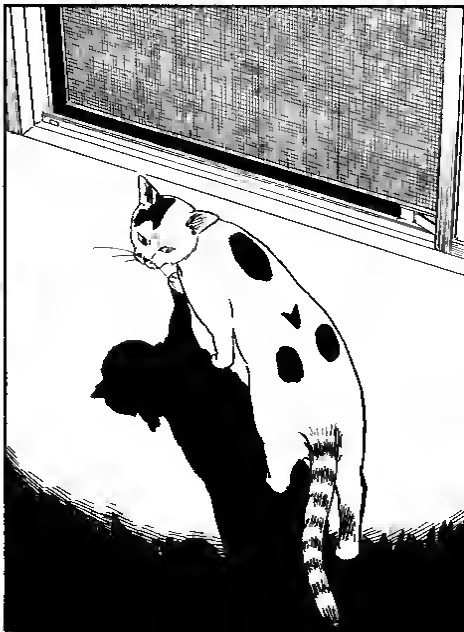
Chapter 7 King Yon




After Yon's great escape last time, we have been very nervous.
I can't let my guard down around him
Yon is waiting for a chance to escape


It's a bit bothersome to make sure that these locks are in place after opening the screen to do things like leaving the futons out to dry.
Yon found out how easy it is to open the window screen, so we installed locks on all of our screens.

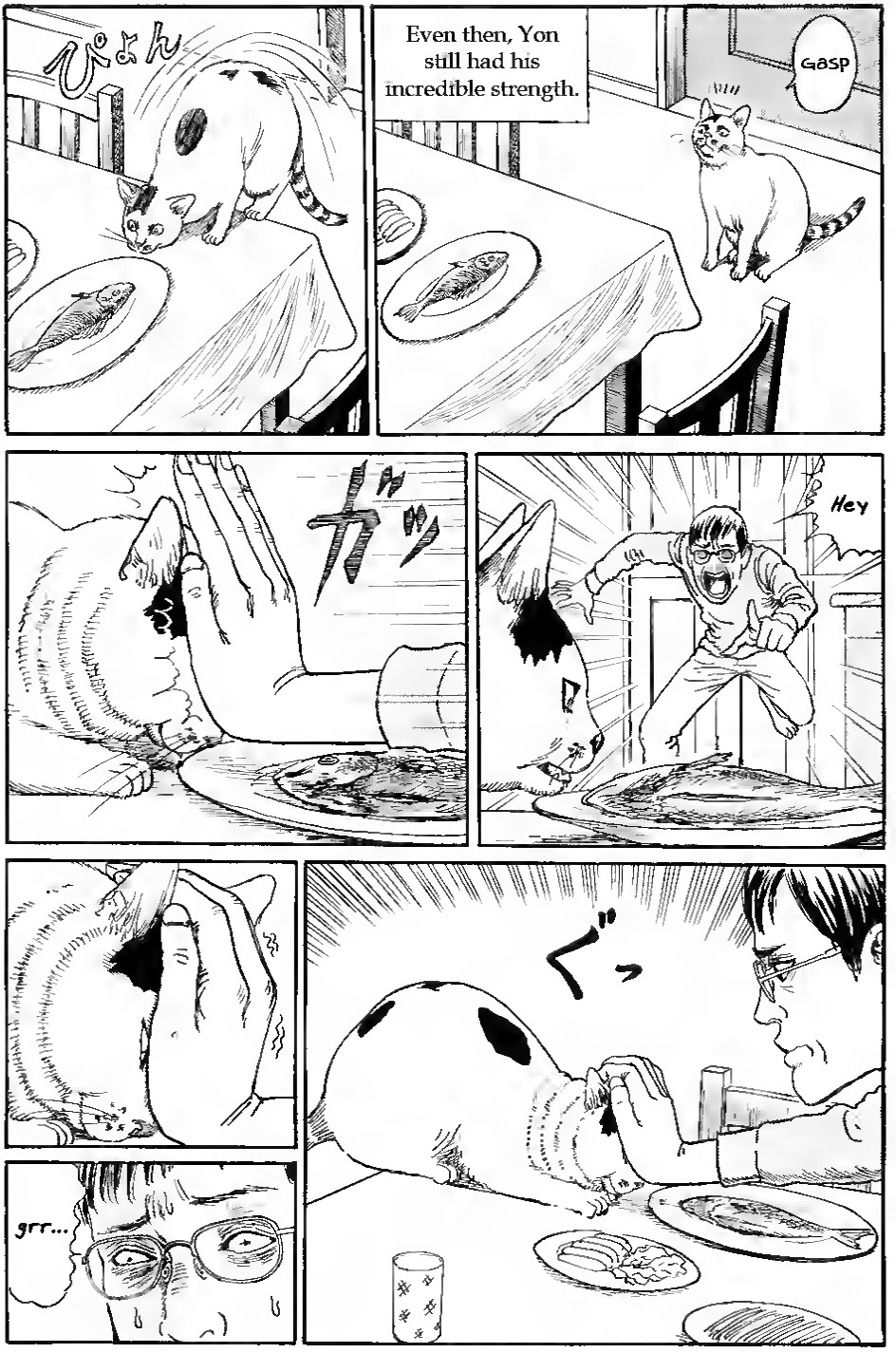

コン!
スッ
?



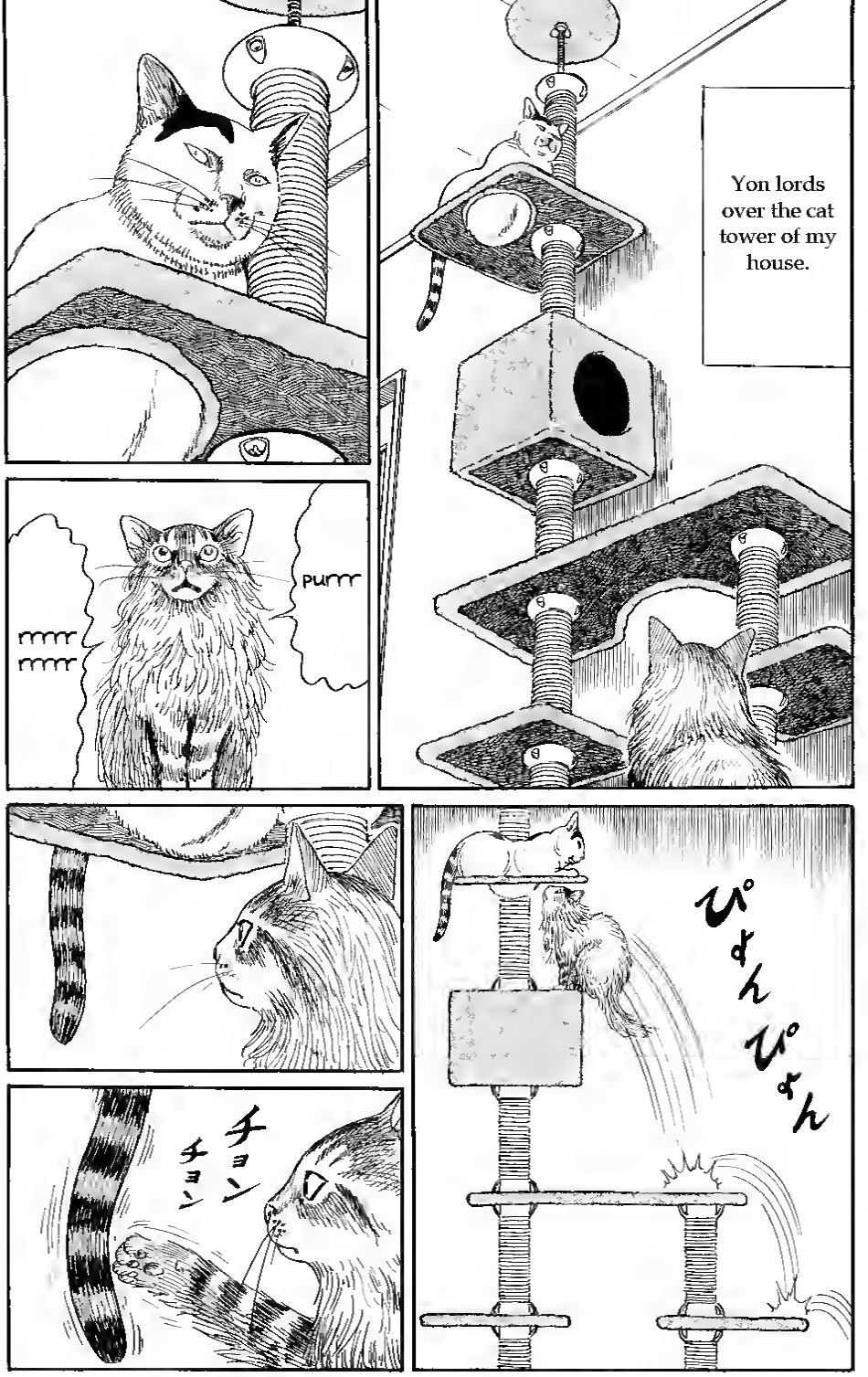
Muu had never gone outside since it was born, so it's not plotting to escape at all
On the other hand..
Yon ran away from A-ko's parents' home several times...
???
so he knows about the joy of the great outdoors'
rrrrrrrrrrr
Good boy, good boy
Muu, you're so pure and innocent
purrrr
Ow

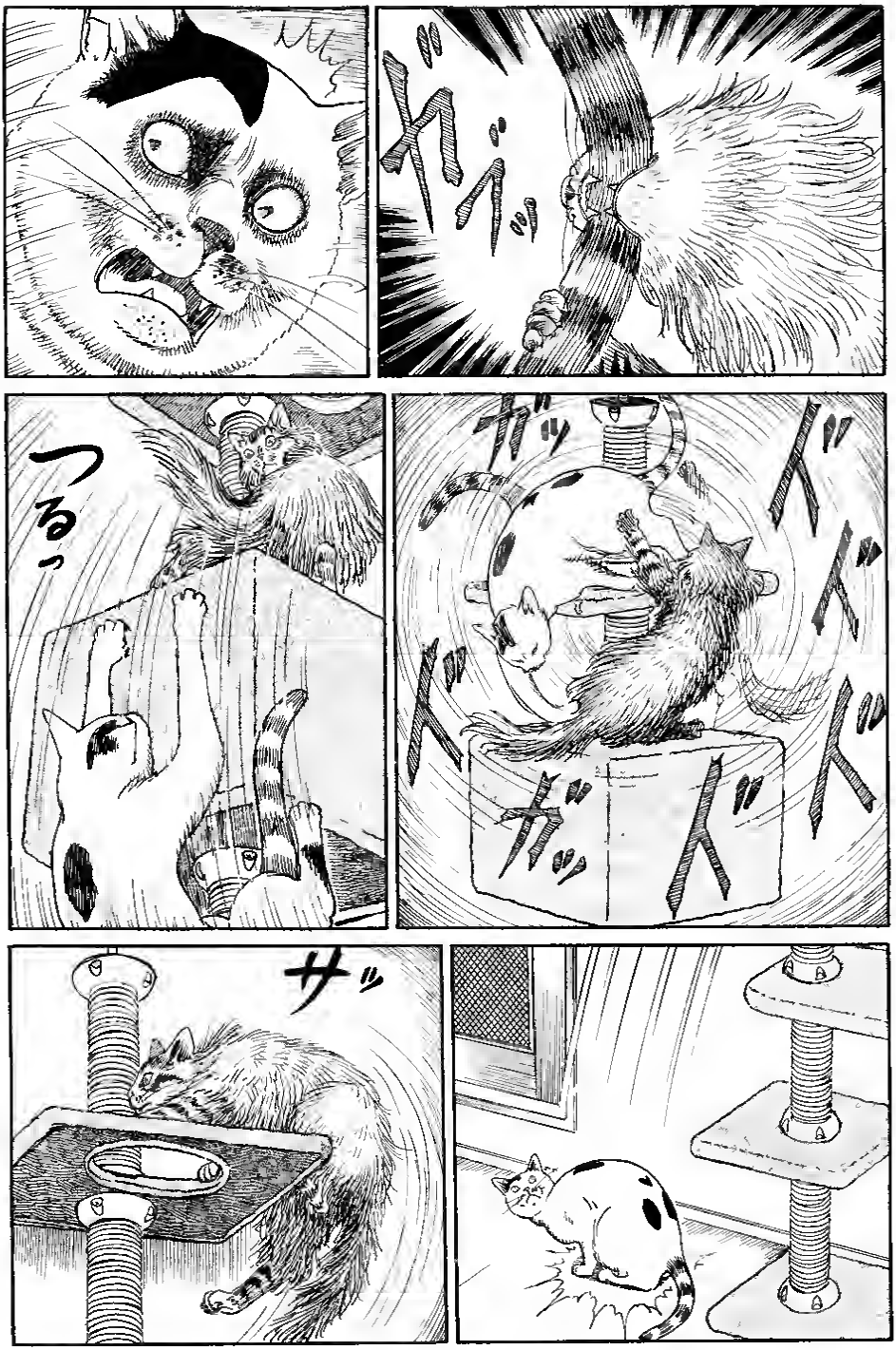
Sure is a nice day today
ハロ
ガッ
ガッ
Hm?
Wah
ギューン
ガッ

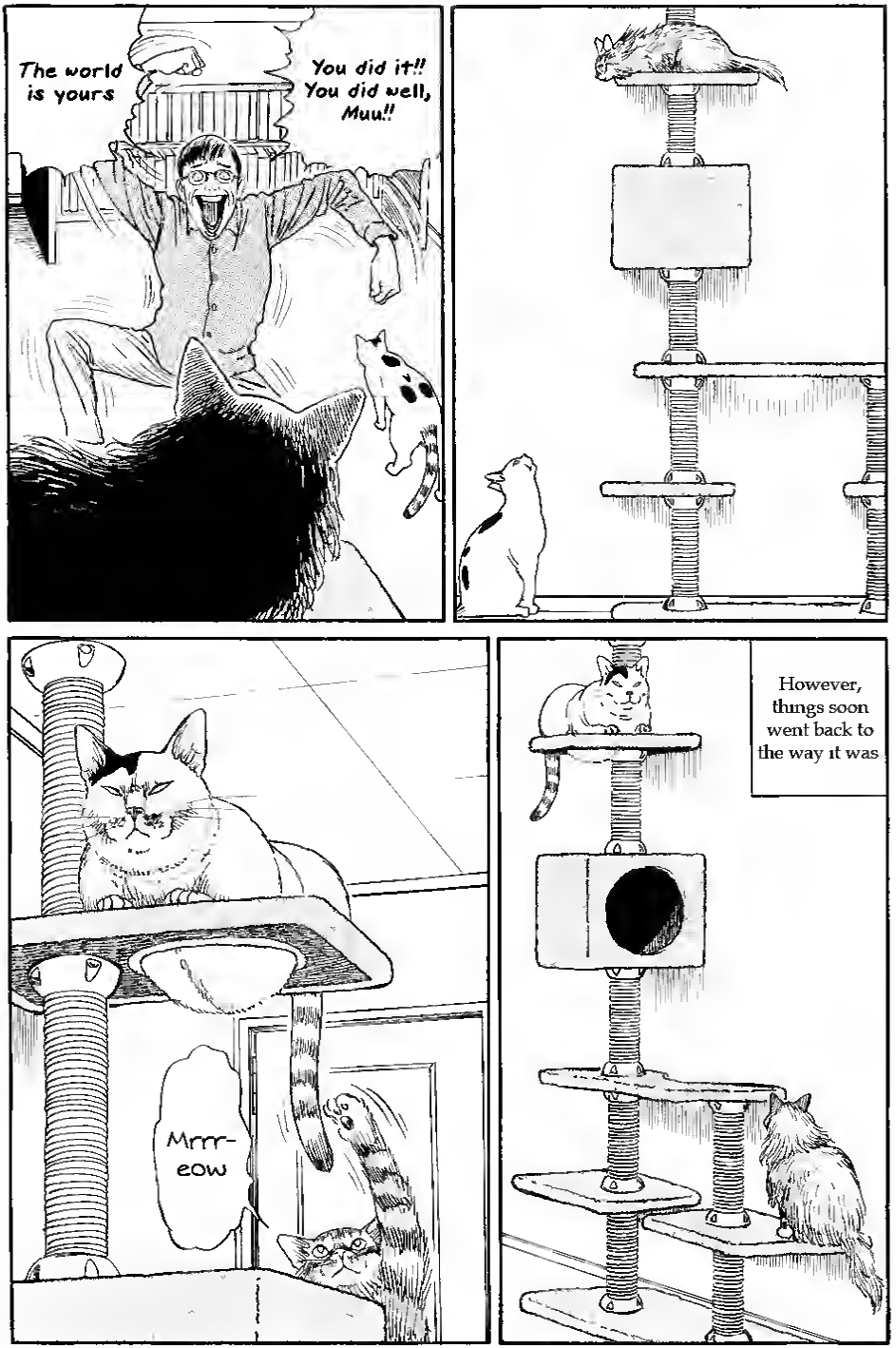
What kind of incredible strength must it have...
to be able to open such a heavy door..
I can't even leave the futons out to dry like this
What!?
J-kun!! Yon opened the sliding door!!
ピッ
This will work!
I quickly installed pairs of magnets on all of the sliding doors in my house.
Installed on the top of door frame
By the way, we soon replaced the magnets with special hardware.
ガリッ
そーっ
Now we don't have to worry..
ガリ
ガリ
ガリ
Hehe-he...


ぴょん
Even then, Yon still had his incredible strength.
Gasp
ガッ
Hey
grr...
ぐっ

ぐぐぐ
ぐぐぐ
ぐぐぐ
...I won
Hah Hah
Hah Hah
ストン
ととと


Yon lords over the cat tower of my house.
purrr
rrrrr
rrrrr
チョン
チョン
ぴょん ぴょん

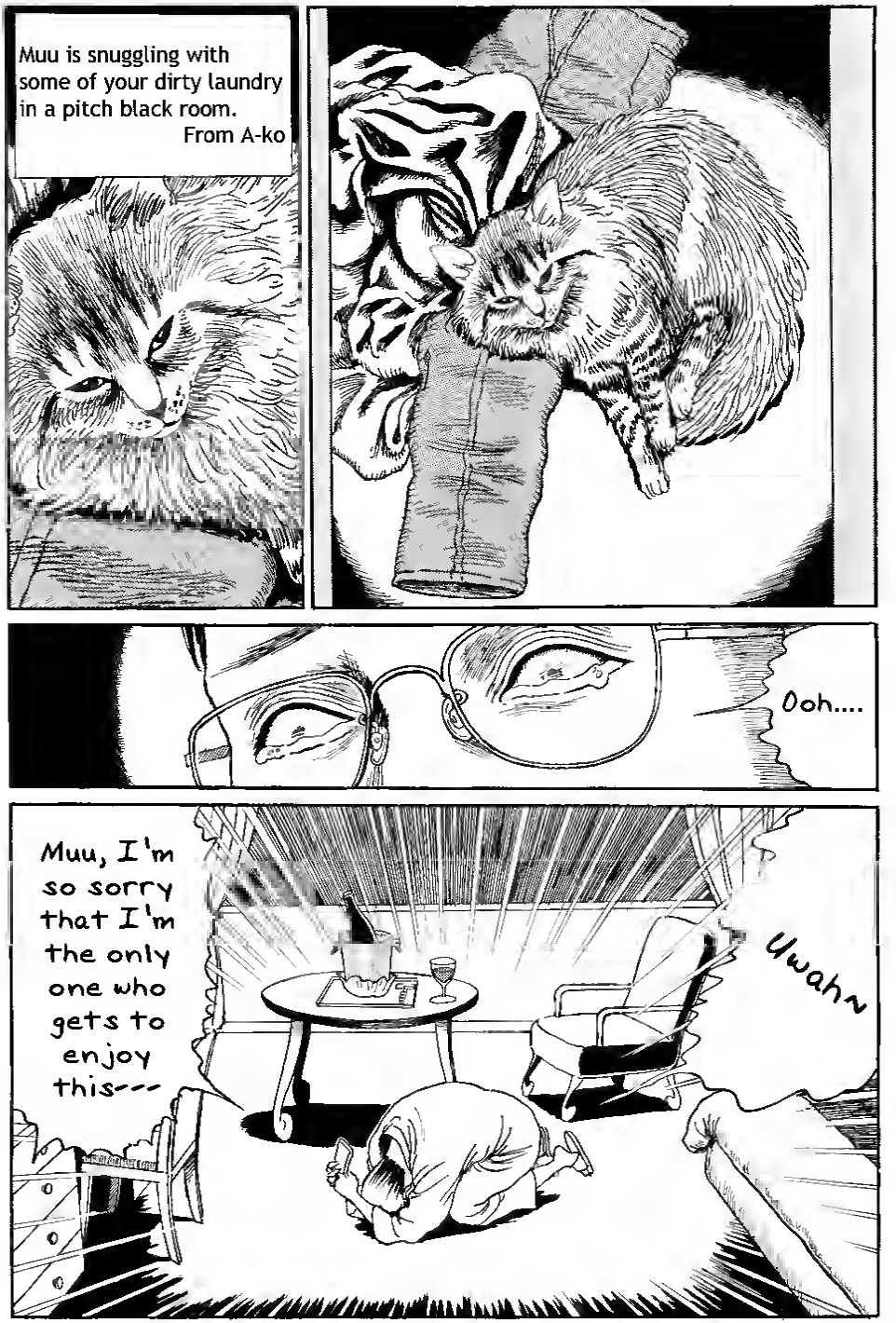

ガッ
つるっ
ガッ ドッ ドッ ガッ ドッ
サッ


The world is yours
You did it!! You did well, Muu!!
Mrrr- eow
However, things soon went back to the way it was

ぴょん
purrrrr
Chapter 8 Muu's Castration
Purrr
rrr

プルルルルル
Oh, good boy, good boy
ウラララララ
Hehehe
Muu has been close to me as of late.
Hehehe, poor loser..
Yon is the best♪♪♪
がっ
ズルズル

The other side prepared an extravagant hotel room for me.
One day, I was invited to Tokyo for business.
シャ
Hm?
Hm?
Hehehe.. A-ko was so jealous when I mailed a picture of this room to her..
She hasn't given up yet
Mail A-ko
Oh? Another photo from A-ko

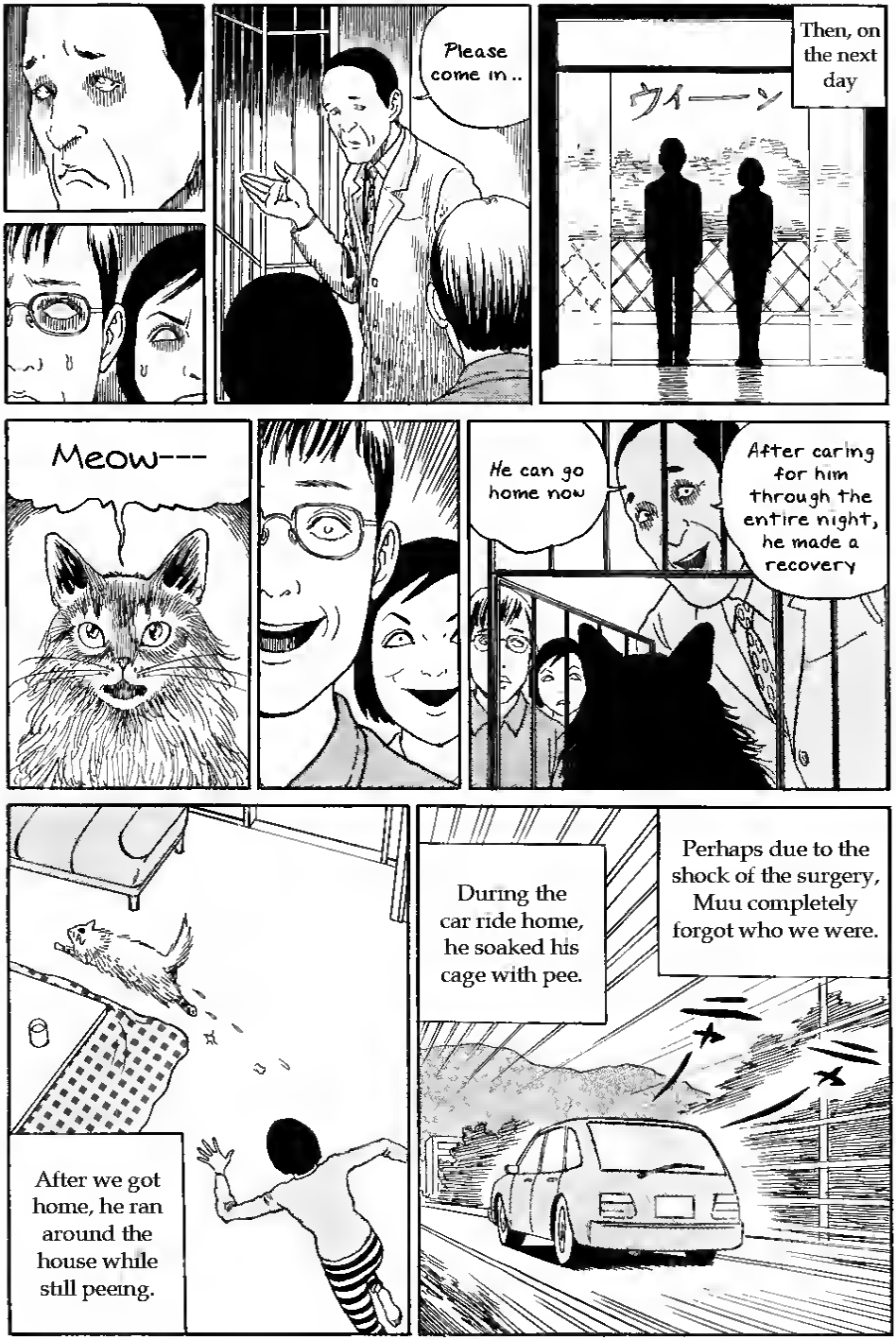

Muu is snuggling with some of your dirty laundry in a pitch black room.
From A-ko
Ooh....
Muu, I'm so sorry that I'm the only one who gets to enjoy this---
Uwahn

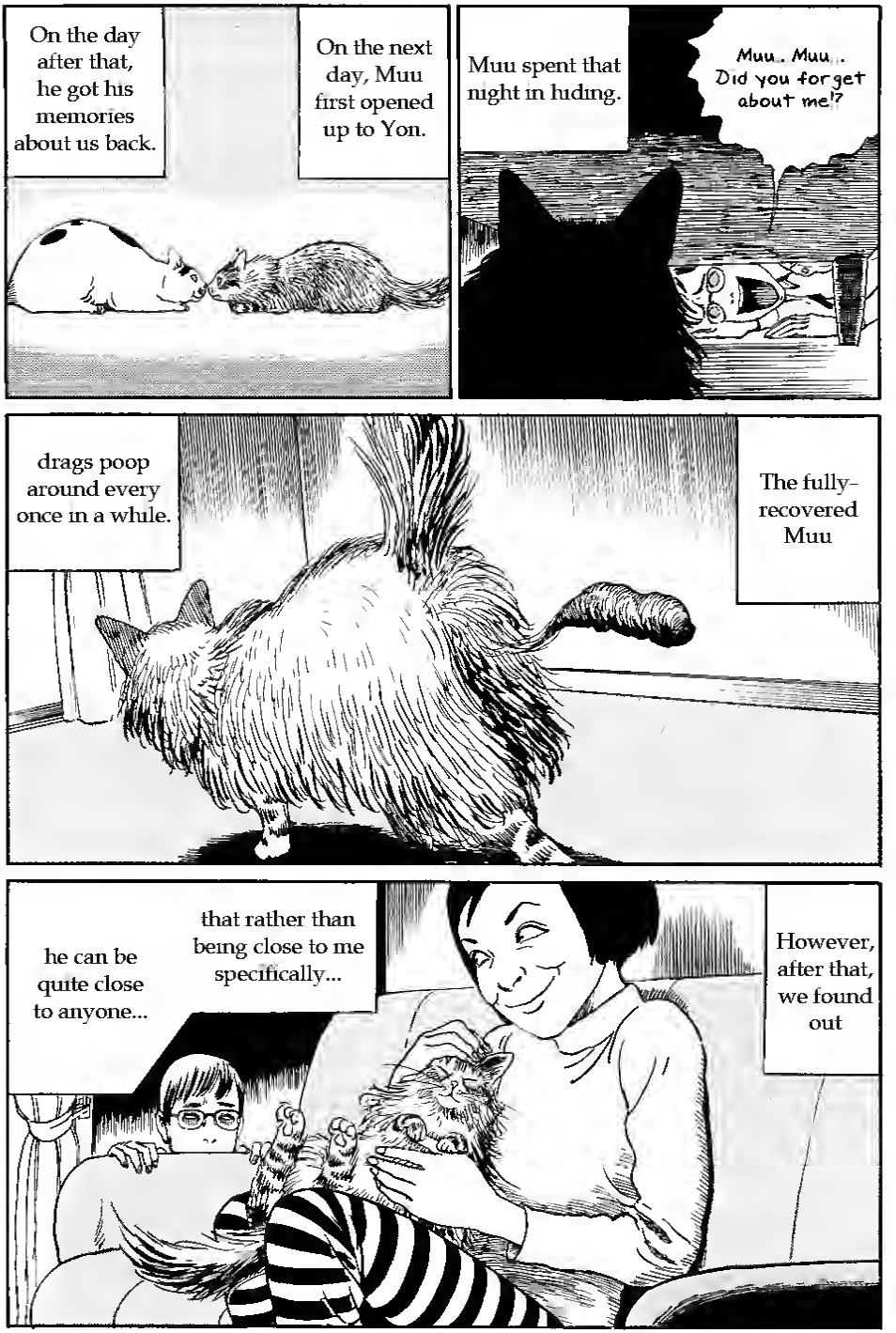
We'll leave him up to you, doctor
We brought Muu to the local veterinarian.
Then, it was time for Muu to get castrated.
友愛動物病院
Muu, we'll come pick you up in the evening
I wonder if the surgery went well
We couldn't calm down throughout the day for some reason. We went to the veterinarian again in the evening.

Please come in...
Excuse me, we're here to pick Muu up
Normally, he would wake up around now
...He still hasn't woken up from the sedative
Huh? Did something happen?
...About that...
What's wrong?
Muu

Please let him stay overnight so we can monitor him
We get cats like him every once in a while
Look.. His tongue is white. He doesn't seem to have recovered yet...
Why!?
Don't tell me that he's just going to die like that...!?
Will Muu wake up from the sedative?

because you're the sixth generation
I got your name You're Muu
Muu...
Muu...
Wah, it's so cute
purrr
Muu is just being calm
J-kun, you're so bad at this
Are you going to die on me!?
Muu...
Muu ...
Muu ...


Please come in..
Then, on the next day
ウィーン
Meow---
He can go home now
After caring for him through the entire night, he made a recovery
After we got home, he ran around the house while still peeing.
During the car ride home, he soaked his cage with pee.
Perhaps due to the shock of the surgery, Muu completely forgot who we were.


On the day after that, he got his memories about us back.
On the next day, Muu first opened up to Yon.
Muu spent that night in hiding.
Muu.. Muu.. Did you forget about me!?
drags poop around every once in a while.
The fully-recovered Muu
he can be quite close to anyone...
that rather than being close to me specifically...
However, after that, we found out

Mr. J先生!

I have a question, Mr. J!

Question.5

Was your wife mad that you drew A-ko's eyes as completely white as often as you could?

Answer.

She did get mad at that. She was also mad about A-ko's hairstyle. Even when I drew A-ko's face, she guided me on which extra lines to erase.
She also pointed about how she never wore A-ko's trademark striped pants.
However, overall, my wife isn't as mad about this manga as one would think.

Ask Mr. J

I have a question, Mr. J!

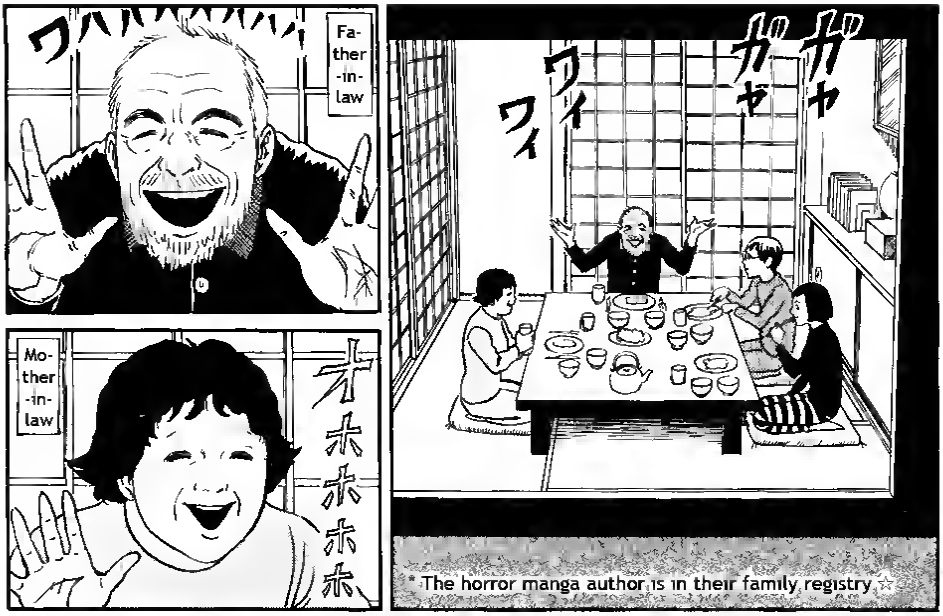
Question.6

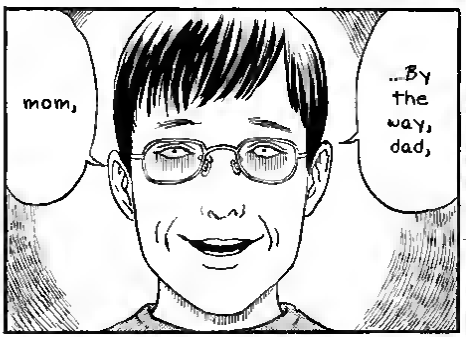
Whenever cats appeared in some of Mr. J's older works, I felt a great deal of fear.
However, one day, you decided to draw cute cats and even capture the personality of cats very well, which made you now recognized among the cat lovers as a cat owner, and stuck drawing cat manga. Have you converted from dogs to cats?

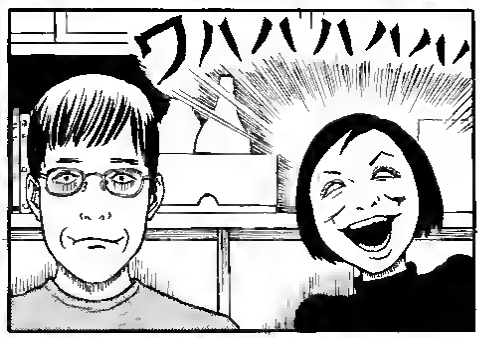
Answer.

I may have really become a cat person now.
When I was a kid, stray cats that creepily stared at me from the street corner left a bad impression on me, but now that I live together with two cats, I know that they can be cute as well.
Many interesting stories had happened during my life with the cats, so my editor told me about turning them into a manga. I'm thankful for his keen insight.

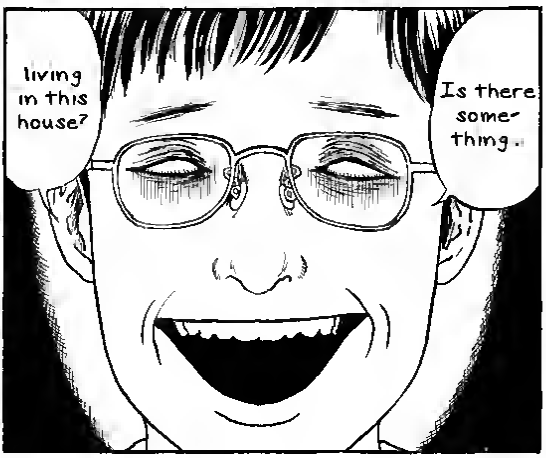
I always feel some presence...
Every time I visit A-ko's parents' home in Chiba,
Chapter 9 Unidentified Organism
Ah!
Some... Something's here.
Something is in this house!!


ワハハハハハ
Father-in-law
ガヤガヤ
ワイワイ
Mother-in-law
オホホホホ
*The horror manga author is in their family registry ☆

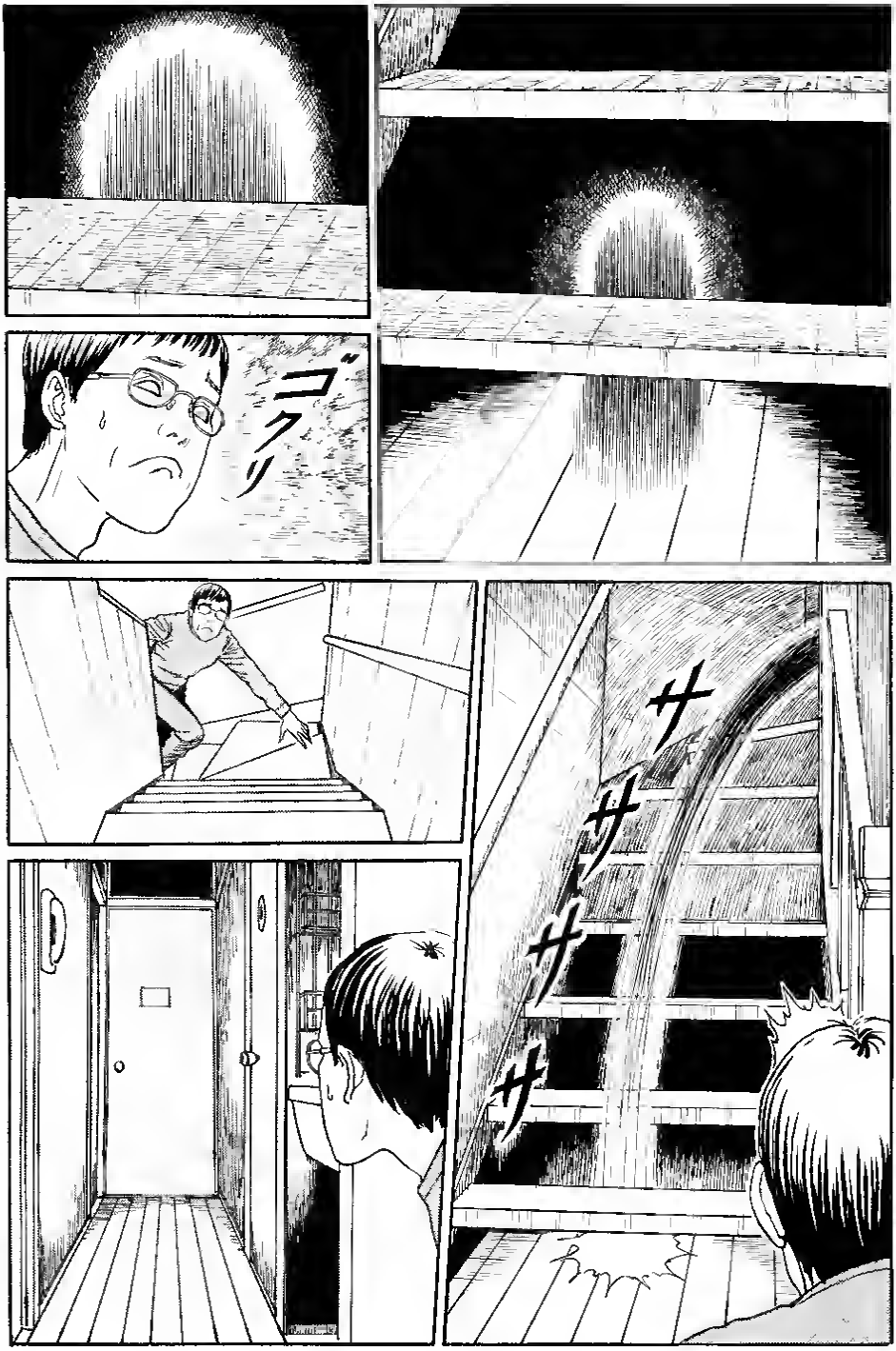

mom,
..By the way, dad,


ワハハハハハ

Huh...

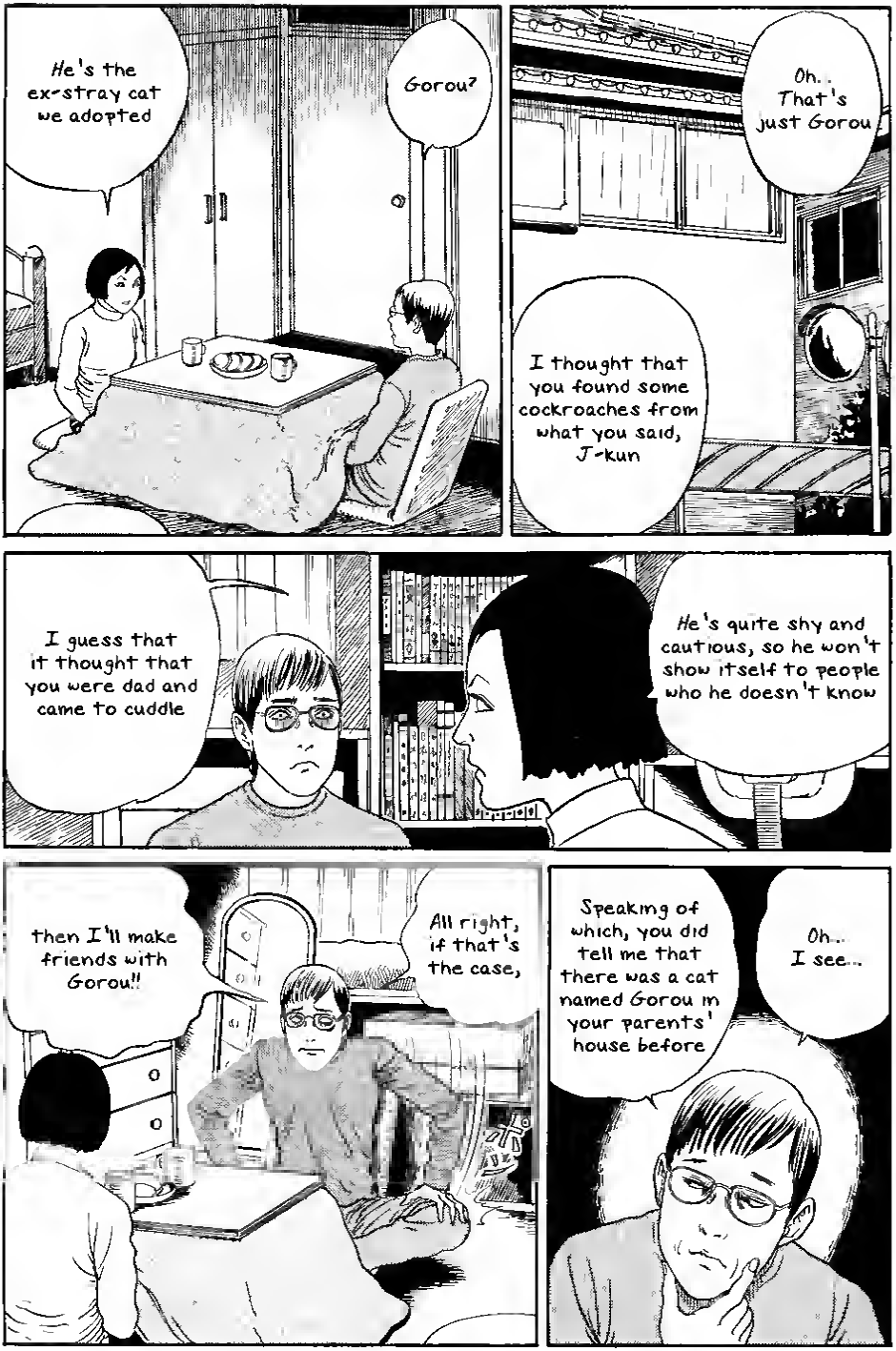

living in this house?
Is there something..

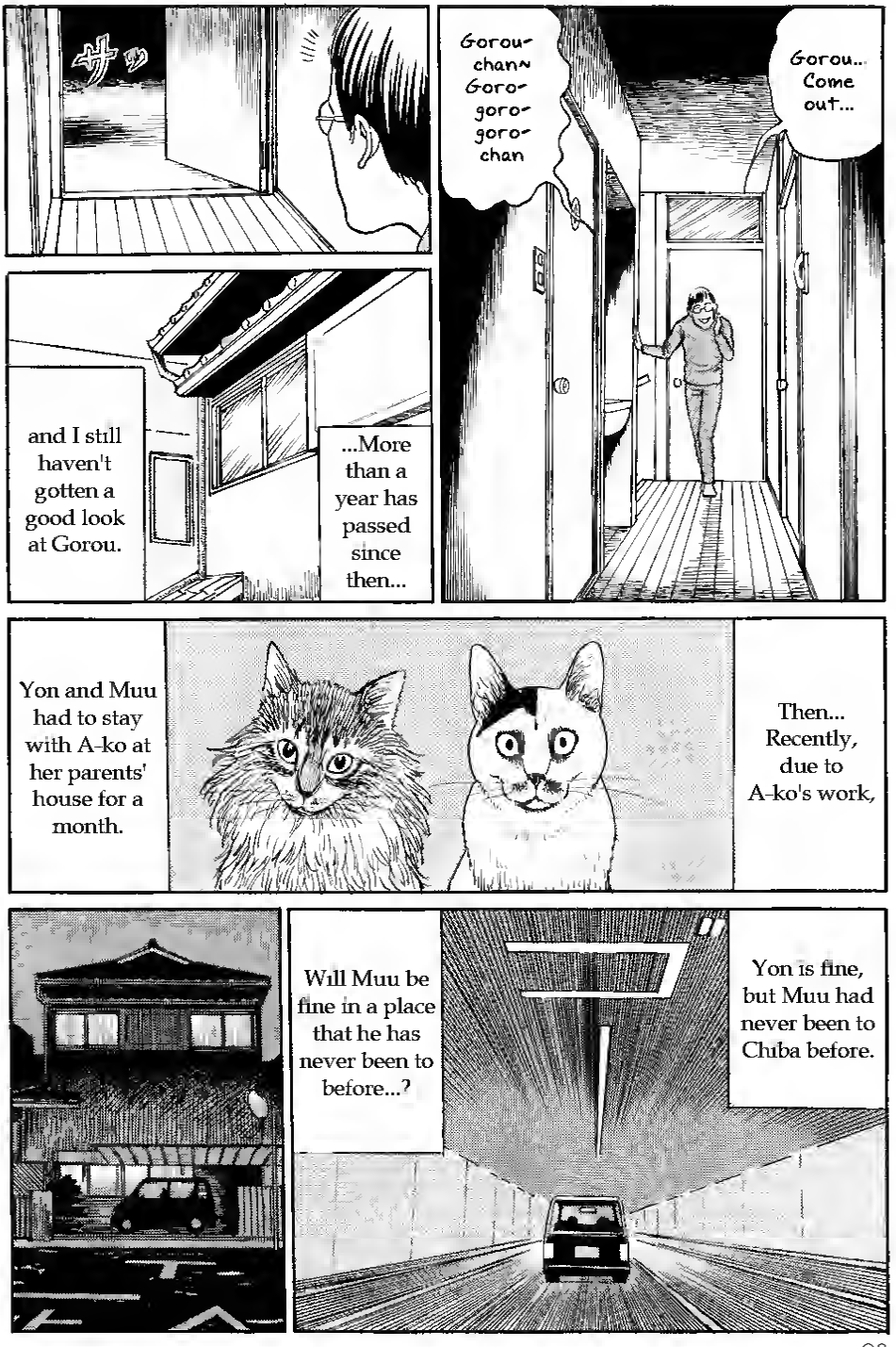
.....
.....
They must be hiding something.
ガヤ ガヤ
ワイ ワイ
!

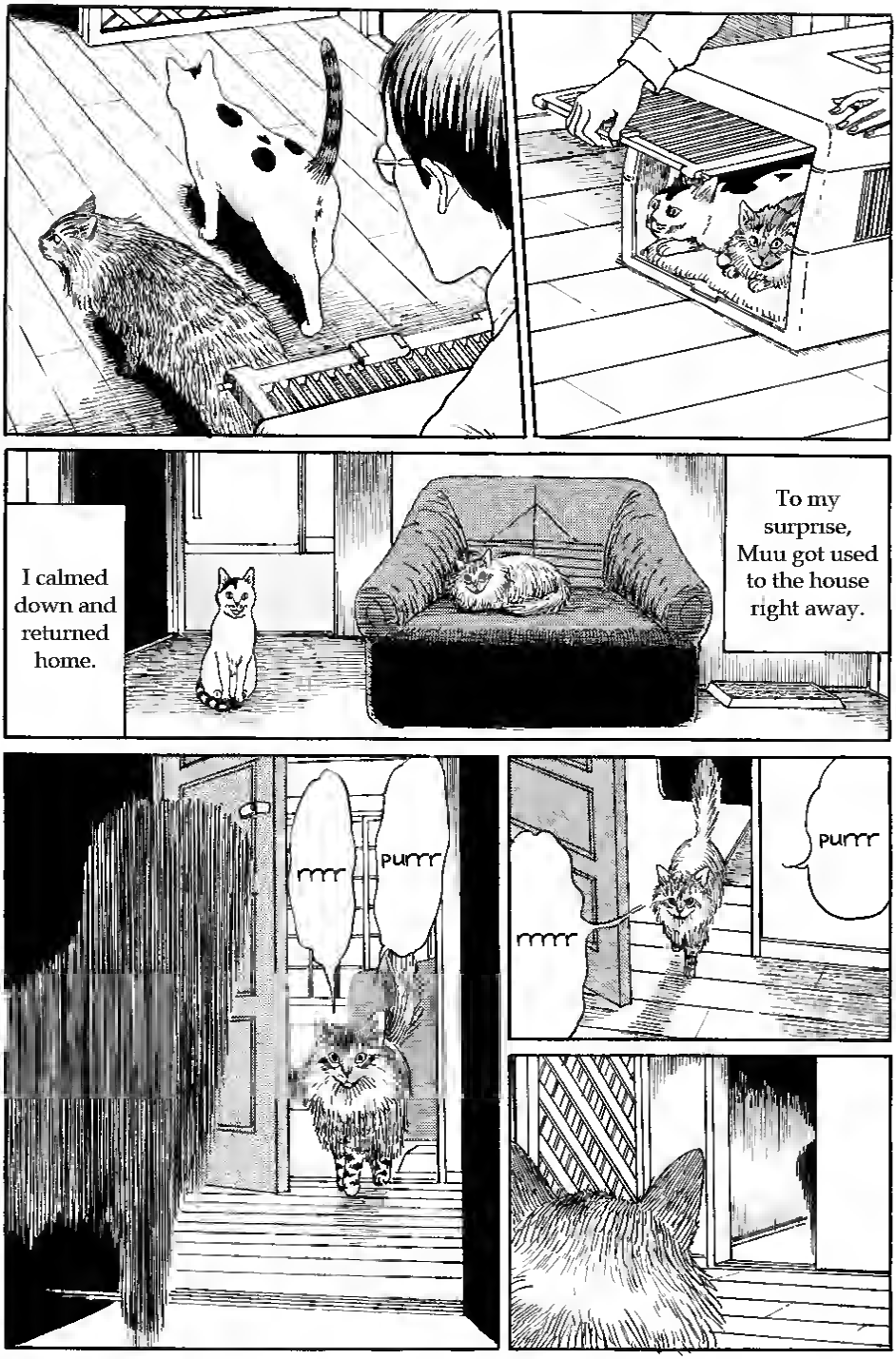

ゴクリ
サ
サ
サ
サ
サ

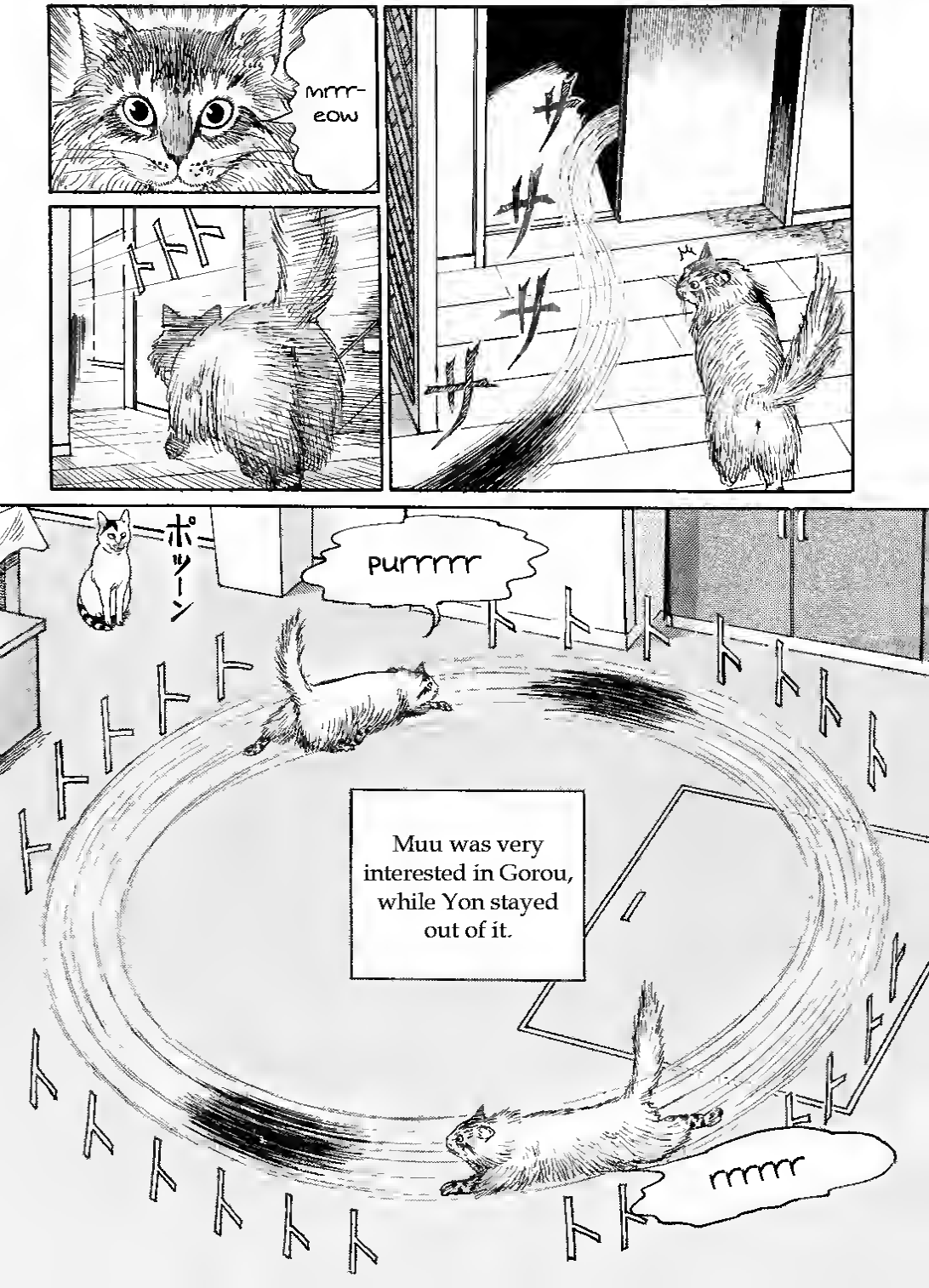
*meeeeow
Hm?
It happened while I was brushing my teeth in the middle of the night.
!?
...What made that sound?
It didn't sound like it came from this world...

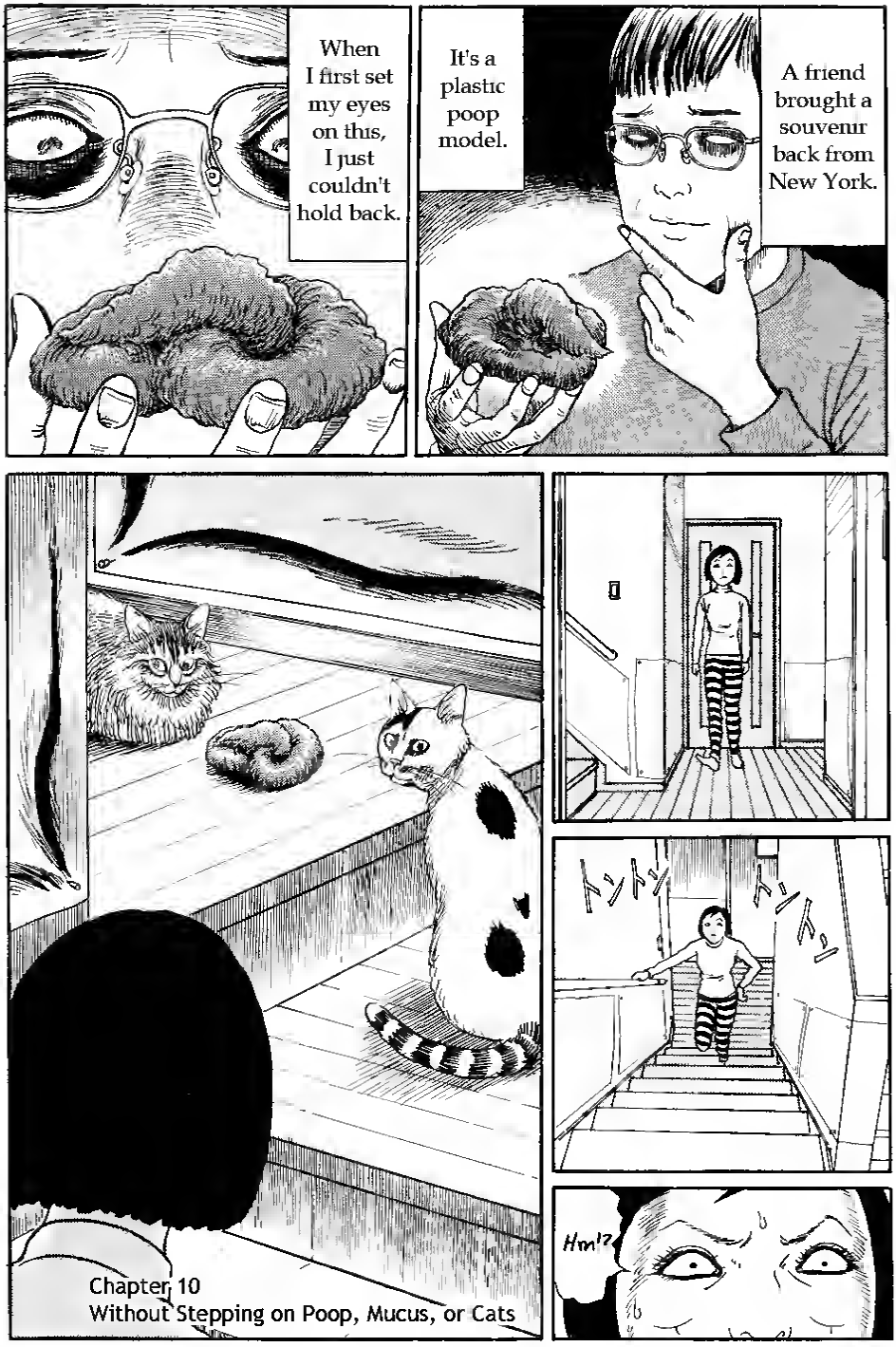
meee oww
meee oww
GWO HNN
The ghost
There it is


He's the ex-stray cat we adopted
Gorou?
Oh.. That's just Gorou
I thought that you found some cockroaches from what you said, J-kun
I guess that it thought that you were dad and came to cuddle
He's quite shy and cautious, so he won't show itself to people who he doesn't know
then I'll make friends with Gorou!!
All right, if that's the case,
Speaking of which, you did tell me that there was a cat named Gorou in your parents' house before
Oh.. I see...


Gorou-chan~ Goro-goro-goro-chan
Gorou... Come out...
...More than a year has passed since then...
and I still haven't gotten a good look at Gorou.
Yon and Muu had to stay with A-ko at her parents' house for a month.
Then... Recently, due to A-ko's work,
Will Muu be fine in a place that he has never been to before...?
Yon is fine, but Muu had never been to Chuba before.


I calmed down and returned home.
To my surprise, Muu got used to the house right away.
rrrr
purrr
purrr
rrrr


mrrr-
eow
ポツーン
purrrrr
Muu was very interested in Gorou, while Yon stayed out of it.
rrrrrr

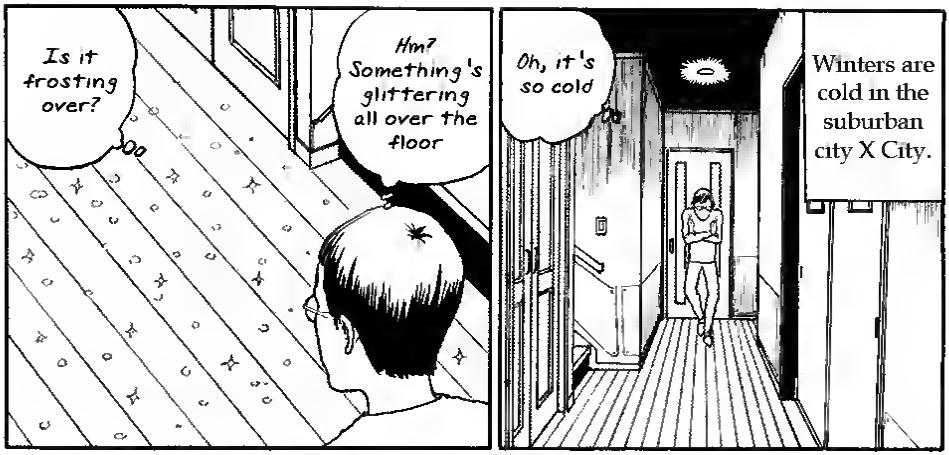

When I first set my eyes on this, I just couldn't hold back.
It's a plastic poop model.
A friend brought a souvenir back from New York.
トントン
トントン
Hm!?
Chapter 10
Without Stepping on Poop, Mucus, or Cats

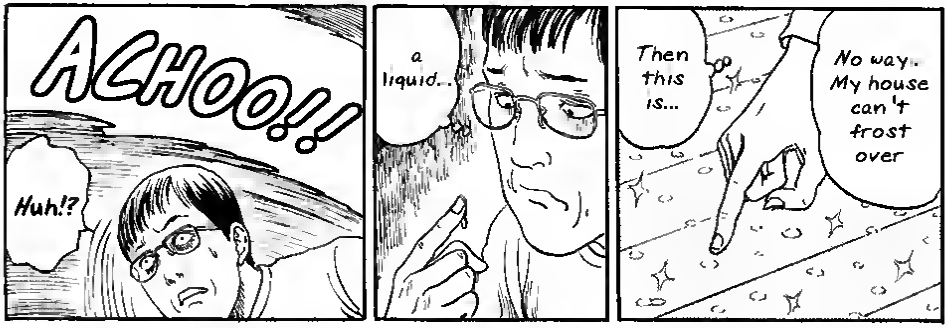
D...Don't come up here, mom. The cats made a mistake
What's wrong, A-chan
WAHNNNN
Oh, it's just poop...
J-kun, look
What is it, A-ko?
Gyah
ポイ
Here
ガ"
Uwah

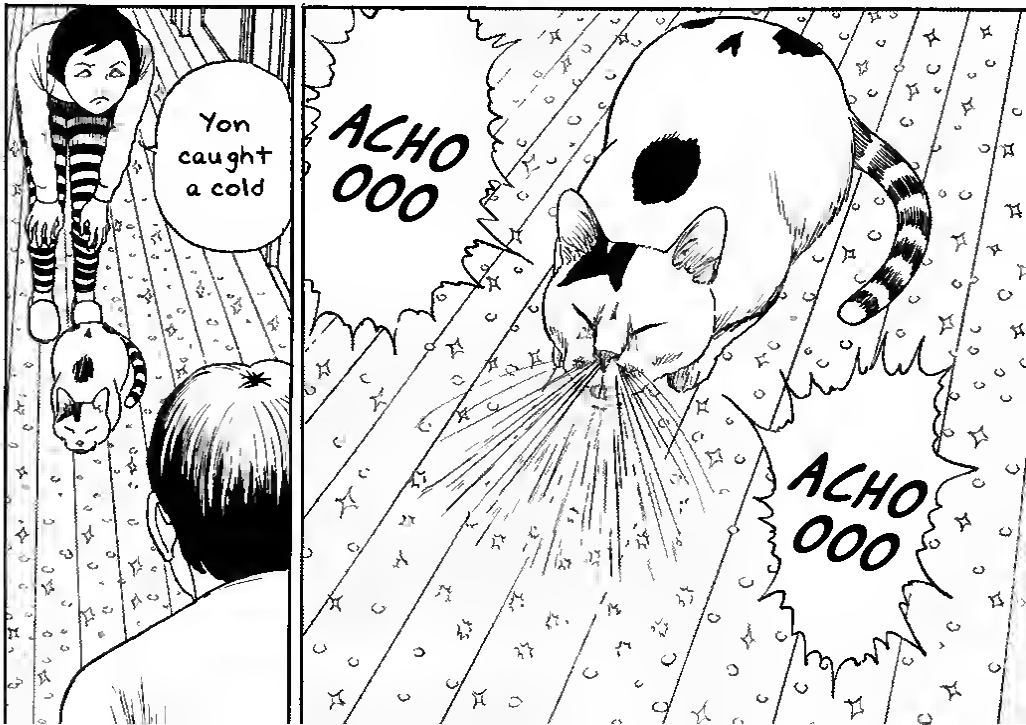
UWAHAHAHA
Oh, it's just a toy! You did this, didn't you, J!!
Hm?
ガチャ
A few days later
WOAH
Hahaha, A-ko must be trying to get me..
Why is it here?
グチョ

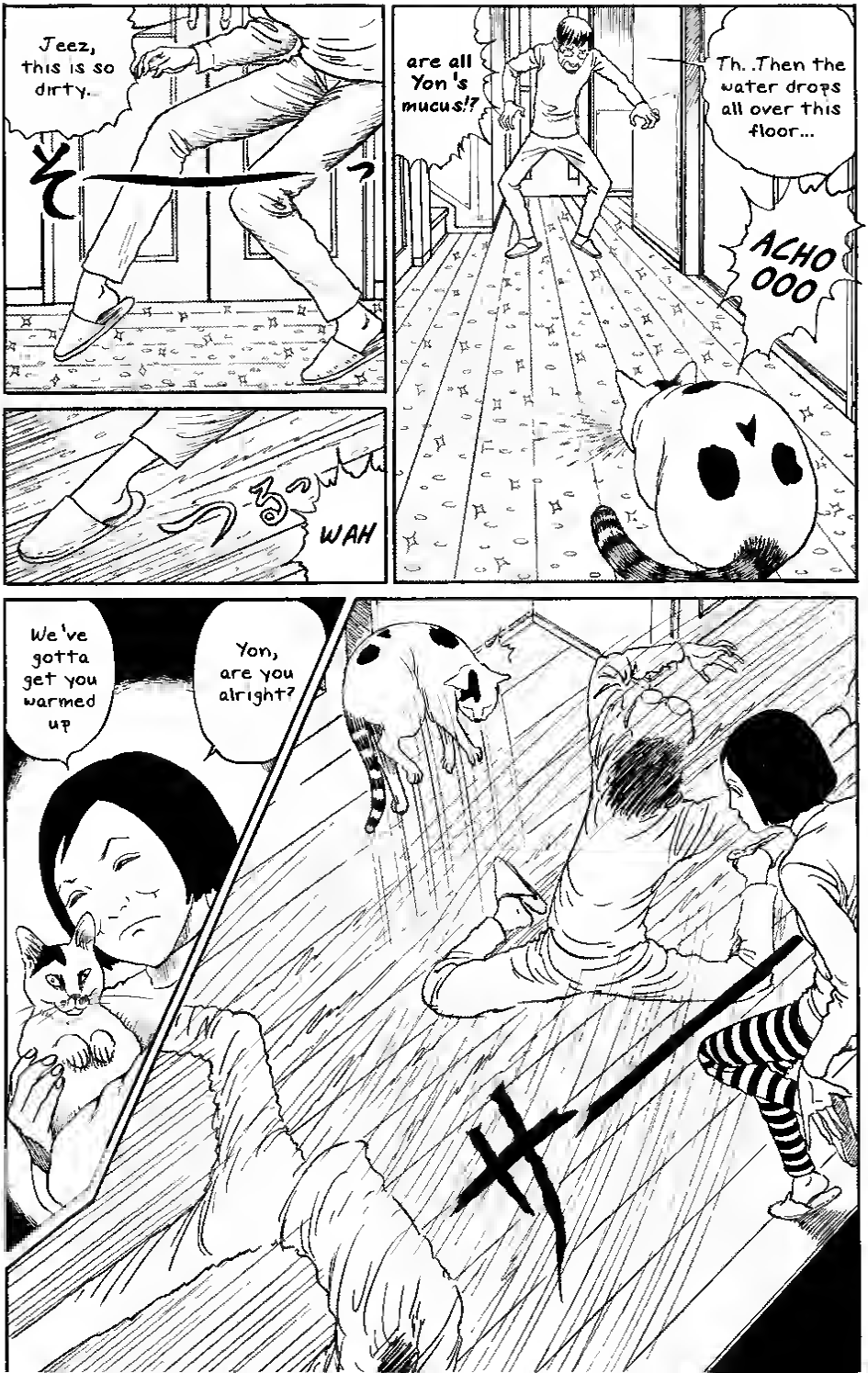
That's barf
That's not poop
It's the real thing
It's real cat poop
Uwa-ahhh
I'll have to limit his meals
Yon must have ate too much and vomited it out
as long as there's feed in his bowl, he'll eat it all
In any case,
Uwahahaha

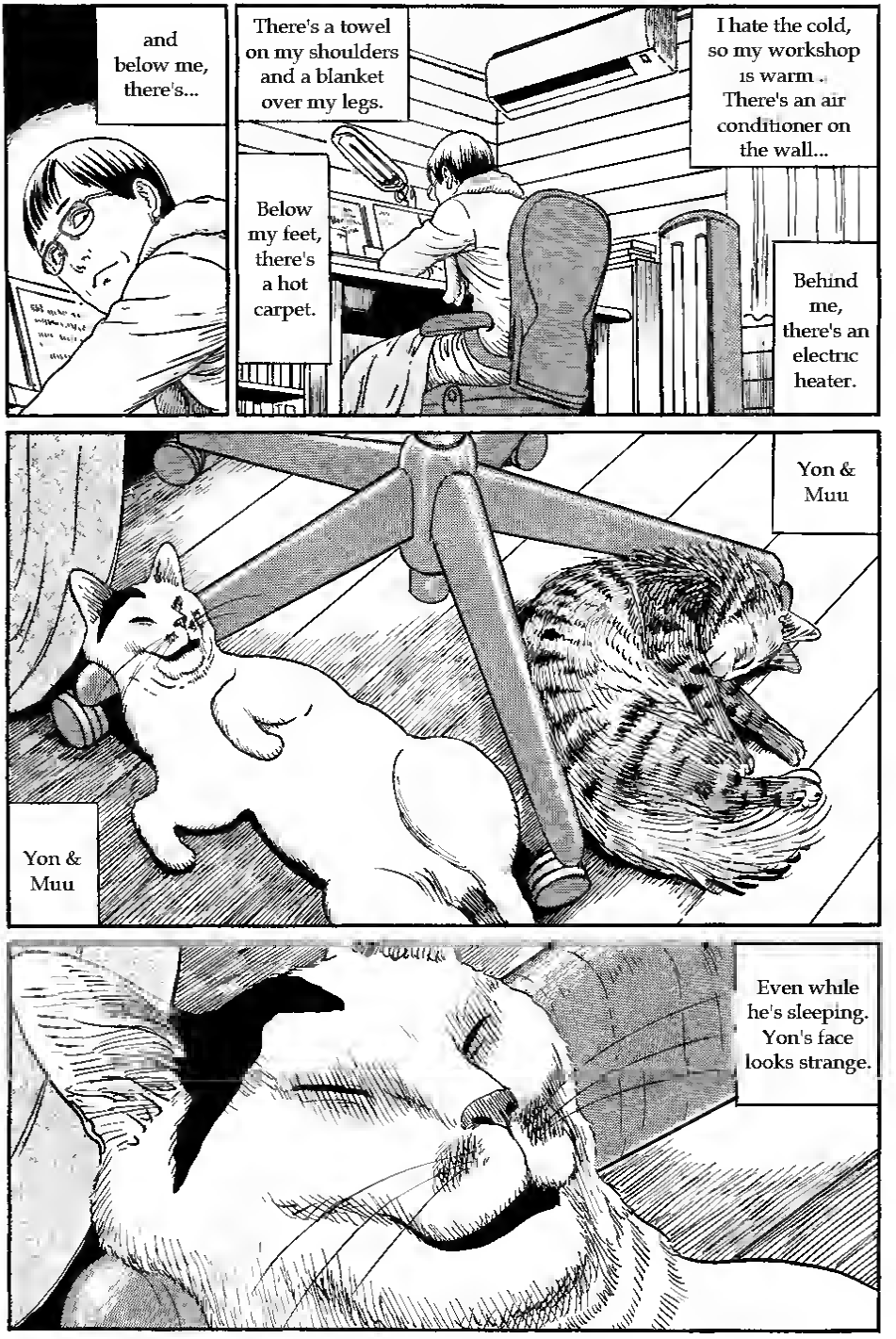
ムシャムシャ
ムシャムシャ
Yon was weak and sick as a kitten.
A-ko still worries about Yon's health.
Yon!! Don't eat Muu's food
ガツガツ
ガツガツ

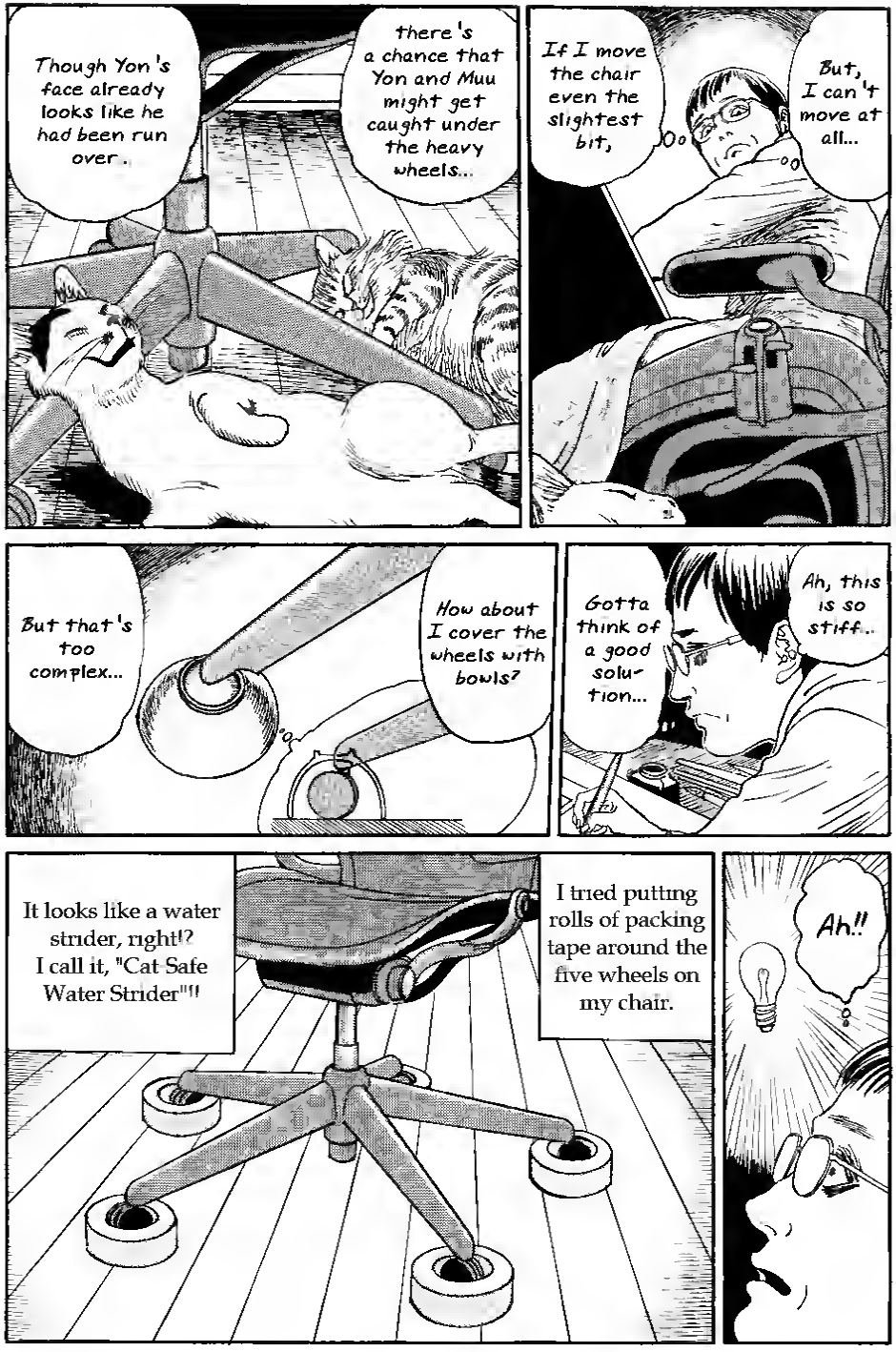

Is it frosting over?
Hm? Something's glittering all over the floor
Oh, it's so cold
Winters are cold in the suburban city X City.

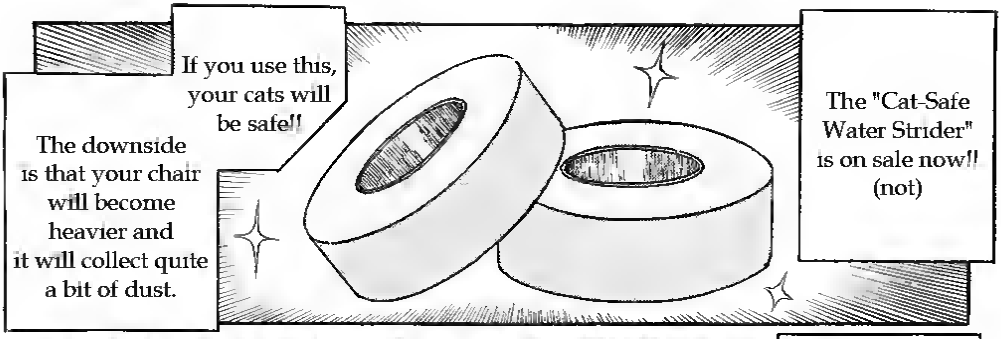

ACHOO!!
Huh!?
a liquid...
Then this is...
No way. My house can't frost over

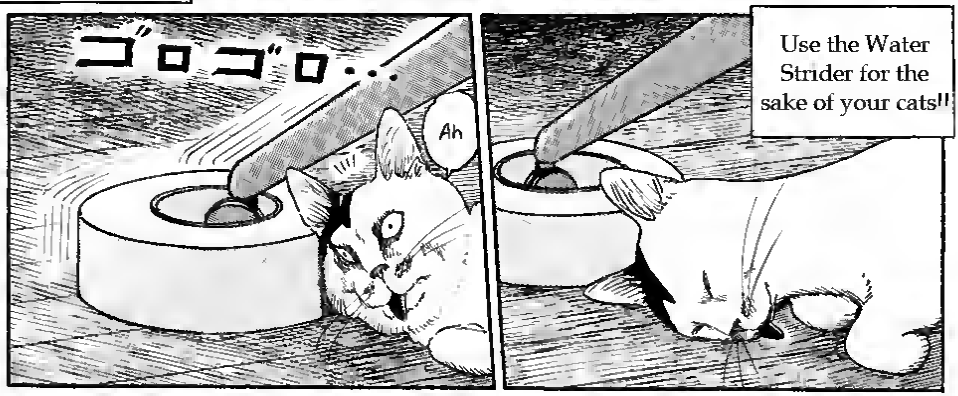

Yon caught a cold
ACHO OOO
ACHO OOO

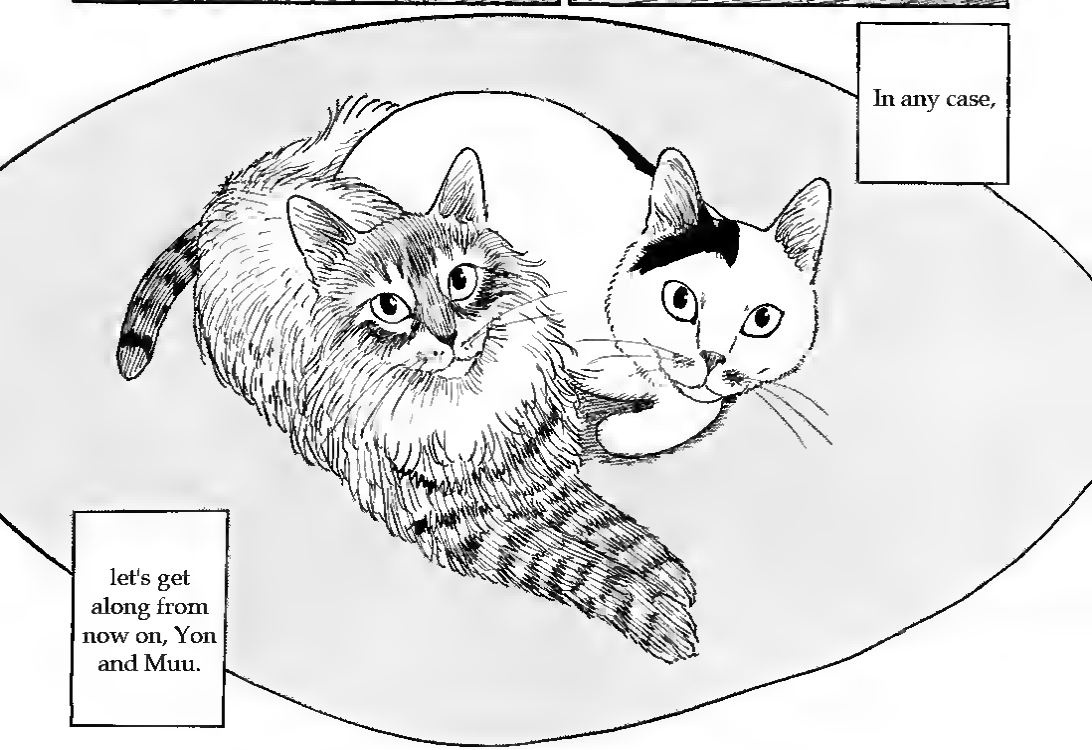

Jeez, this is so dirty...
そっ
WAH
are all Yon's mucus!?
Th..Then the water drops all over this floor...
ACHOOOO
We've gotta get you warmed up
Yon, are you alright?


and below me, there's...
There's a towel on my shoulders and a blanket over my legs.
I hate the cold, so my workshop is warm. There's an air conditioner on the wall...
Below my feet, there's a hot carpet.
Behind me, there's an electric heater.
Yon & Muu
Yon & Muu
Even while he's sleeping. Yon's face looks strange.


Though Yon's face already looks like he had been run over..
there's a chance that Yon and Muu might get caught under the heavy wheels...
If I move the chair even the slightest bit,
But, I can't move at all...
But that's too complex...
How about I cover the wheels with bowls?
Gotta think of a good solution...
Ah, this is so stiff..
It looks like a water strider, right!? I call it, "Cat-Safe Water Strider"!!
I tried putting rolls of packing tape around the five wheels on my chair.
Ah!!


If you use this, your cats will be safe!!
The downside is that your chair will become heavier and it will collect quite a bit of dust.
The "Cat-Safe Water Strider" is on sale now!! (not)


ゴロゴロ…
Ah
Use the Water Strider for the sake of your cats!!


In any case,
let's get along from now on, Yon and Muu.

The End

質問です、J先生！

I have a question, Mr. J!

Question.7

Was it true that you drew some gag manga before making your debut as a pro?

Answer.

When I was making manga as a hobby, I drew both gag and horror manga. In the gag manga that I drew in elementary school, I made original characters like “Big Dummy”, “Pose Boy”, and “Small Dummy”. I even had cases in which I started out making a proper horror manga, get tired of it halfway, and turned it into a gag amanga.

質問です、J先生！

I have a question, Mr. J!

Question.8

This year (2009) marks the 22 year in your career as a manga author. Now that your 25th anniversary is just around the corner, what are your plans for the future?

Answer.

I plan to steadily make more works as I've always done. However, I do have one new goal, and that's to make a novel that I had once wrote for a video game into a manga. Please look forward to them, dear readers.

Afterwords

Itoh Junji

After J and A-ko got married, they moved into a used house in the same city with their cats.

In the drafty living room, there was a wood stove covered in soot and a wide set of stairs that looked like came from a Takarazuka stage set. This house is really strange.

The house seems to have been designed for the wood stove, because why else would it have a drafty living room in a cold region?

However, J didn't know how to use the wood stove. Besides, it would be dangerous if the cats jumped on it or a future child got burned with it. In the end, he decided to remove the stove.

When he called the manufacturer of the stove to ask about how to remove it, the manufacturer just told him how to ignite it.

"No, no, I want to remove it."

He repeat it, but because the lifetime stove costs 700 thousand yen and removing it costs 1 million yen, the manufacturer asked him to try it once.

A few days later, even though they didn't ask them, an old man from manufacturer came and fixed the broken parts of the stove, sprayed black paint over the parts covered soot, and lit some wood and newspapers on fire in the stove.

【あとがき】

伊藤潤二

JとA子は入籍後、同じ市内の中古物件に猫と共に居を移した。

そこは、吹き抜けのリビングに、煤けた大きな薪ストーブがでんと置かれ、宝塚の舞台のような幅の広い階段がある、ちょっと変わった家だった。

こんな山間の寒冷地帯に吹き抜けというのは、まさに薪ストーブを置くための間取りなのだ。

しかし、Jは薪ストーブの扱い方など知らない。それにこんなストーブでは、猫が飛び乗ったりしたら危ないし、子供が生まれたら火傷する心配もある。結局、薪ストーブは廃棄しようということになった。

薪ストーブの購入先の業者に廃棄処分の方法を聞くために電話すると、業者は焚き方を教えに行くという。

「いやいや、廃棄したいのですが」

と繰り返すが、ストーブ自体七十万円もする一生ものの上、廃棄すると十万円はかかるから、一度使ってみてから考えたらどうですか？　とのこと。

数日後業者の老人がやって来ると、頼みもしないのに壊れた箇所を直し、煤けた外観に黒いスプレーを吹きつけ

The crackling fire started heating up the room.

"Wood stoves make infrared radiation, which heats up the body from the inside. After I heat up with a wood stove, I can go outside into the snow for two hours without getting cold."

The old man seemed to be a enthusiast, and sat down on the floor in front of the stove.

"Those who loved wood stoves used to talk while sit around in a circle in front of the stove."

The old man put on a big smile.

"Also, you can cook on the stove, which is convenient for your wife."

He added more wood while looking at A-ko for a sign of satisfaction.

J voiced the fear that he had.

"But I have cats in this house..."

Yon & Muu were shut in the room upstairs ever since the old man came.

"Hahaha. The cats won't jump on the stove. 'Cause they're smart. During my years as a wood stove service technician, I have never heard of any cats jumping on top of stoves...Huh? Are you worried about burns that a potential child might get? Hahaha. We sell a special fence for that, so if you ever need it, just contact us and we'll send it right away."

While J was listening to the old man, the stove started burning red, and started filling the room with a nostalgic smell as it heated the room up.

て新品のようにきれいにしてしまうと、薪をくべ、火をつけた新聞紙で着火させた。

ぱちぱちと心地よい音と共にじんわりと部屋が暖まりはじめる。

「薪ストーブからは遠赤外線が出て、体の内側から温まる。わしは薪ストーブにあたった後は、外で二時間くらい雪かきをしても寒くならん」

その老人はいかにも趣味人らしい感じで、うれしそうにストーブの前の床に腰を下ろした。

「薪ストーブを愛する者たちは、皆こうしてストーブの前に車座になって座り、語り合うのじゃ」

老人は楽しそうに笑った。

「ストーブの天板は煮炊きができるようになっていて、奥様方に好評じゃ」

A子が興味を示すのを満足げに見やりながら老人は薪を足す。

Jは兼ねてからの懸念を口にした。

「この家には猫がいるんですがねえ…」

よんとむーは老人が来てからは二階の部屋に隠れてしまっている。

「ははは。猫はストーブには飛び乗らんよ。猫は利口じゃからの。わしはもう何十年も薪ストーブを取り扱っているが、猫が飛び乗ったという話はただの一度も耳にした事はないよ。…え？　子供ができたら火傷が心配？　ははは。それならちゃんと専用の柵が売られておるから、必要になったらわしに連絡をしてくれればすぐに取り寄せるからの」

老人のそんな話を聞いているうちに、ストーブはいよいよ赤々と燃え始め、薪が燃える懐かしい匂いとともに部

屋は優しい温もりに包まれていく。

結局JとA子は薪ストーブを当分使うことに決め、一冬分の薪百束もその老人から購入した。薪は一束五百円。しめて五万円なり。

その日から薪ストーブライフが始まった。Jは、まさか自分が薪ストーブを使いこなすようになるとは夢にも思っていなかった。

――これで俺も冬の山小屋で暖を取るスキルを得た――。

山登りの趣味も予定もないJだったが、内心得意だった。

そんなある朝、Jがいつものように遅めに起きてリビングに下りていくと、A子が憮然として言った。

「よんが朝、ストーブに飛び乗ったよ」

「何だと!?」

「昨日の残り火が消えたころで、火傷するほどじゃなかったからよかったけど、それでも相当熱かったみたいで、飛び乗った途端に踊るようにして飛び降りた」

Jはよんが天板の上で踊る姿を想像した。

あの老人が嘘を言ったのか、それともよんが利口じゃないのか、知る由はなかった。

薪ストーブはコストがかさむことは、最初に薄々感じていた通りだった。一日焚くと薪代が少なくとも千五百円はかかる。もったいないからと次第にケチケチ使うようになり、主力は石油ストーブに取って代わった。結局薪ストーブは、天板で煮炊きする機会もないまま、残った数束の薪もろとも、バーを経営する友人に譲ってしまったのだった。〈了〉

In the end, J and A-ko decided to use the stove, and even bought a hundred bundles of firewood from the old man, which is enough for one winter. One bundle is 500 yen, so 100 bundles is 50 thousand yen.

They then began their life with the woodstove. J never had thought in his wildest dreams that he would master how to use a wood stove.

---*Now I can keep myself warm in a little cabin deep in the mountains.*---

Even though he doesn't even plan to make mountaineering a hobby, J was satisfied.

One morning, J woke up late as usual, and wen downstairs to see a disappointed A-ko.

"Yon jumped onto the stove in the morning."

"What!?"

"It was just some embers from last night, so it's a good thing that he didn't cause any burns, but it seemed pretty hot, since he danced around right after he jumped on it before jumping down."

J imagined Yon dancing on the stove.

They never know if that old man was lying, or if Yon was just stupid.

The wood stove didn't feel like to cost that much to use at first. However, it costs 1500 yen to use it for an entire day. Since it costs so much, they began cutting down on our usage, and then switched to a gas stove. In the end, the wood stove was given to a friend who owns a bar along with the few spare pieces of firewood, even though they never got a chance to cook something on the stove.

<End>

Itoh Junji's Cat Diary

Raw from Share/PD

Scanlated by /a/nonymous scanlations & DKThias
anonscanlations.blogspot.com
dkthias.wordpress.com

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Images:	120
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Further recommendations:
-Tonnura-san (manga)
-Chi's Sweet Home (manga, anime)

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ワイドKC 664

よん&むー

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